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"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

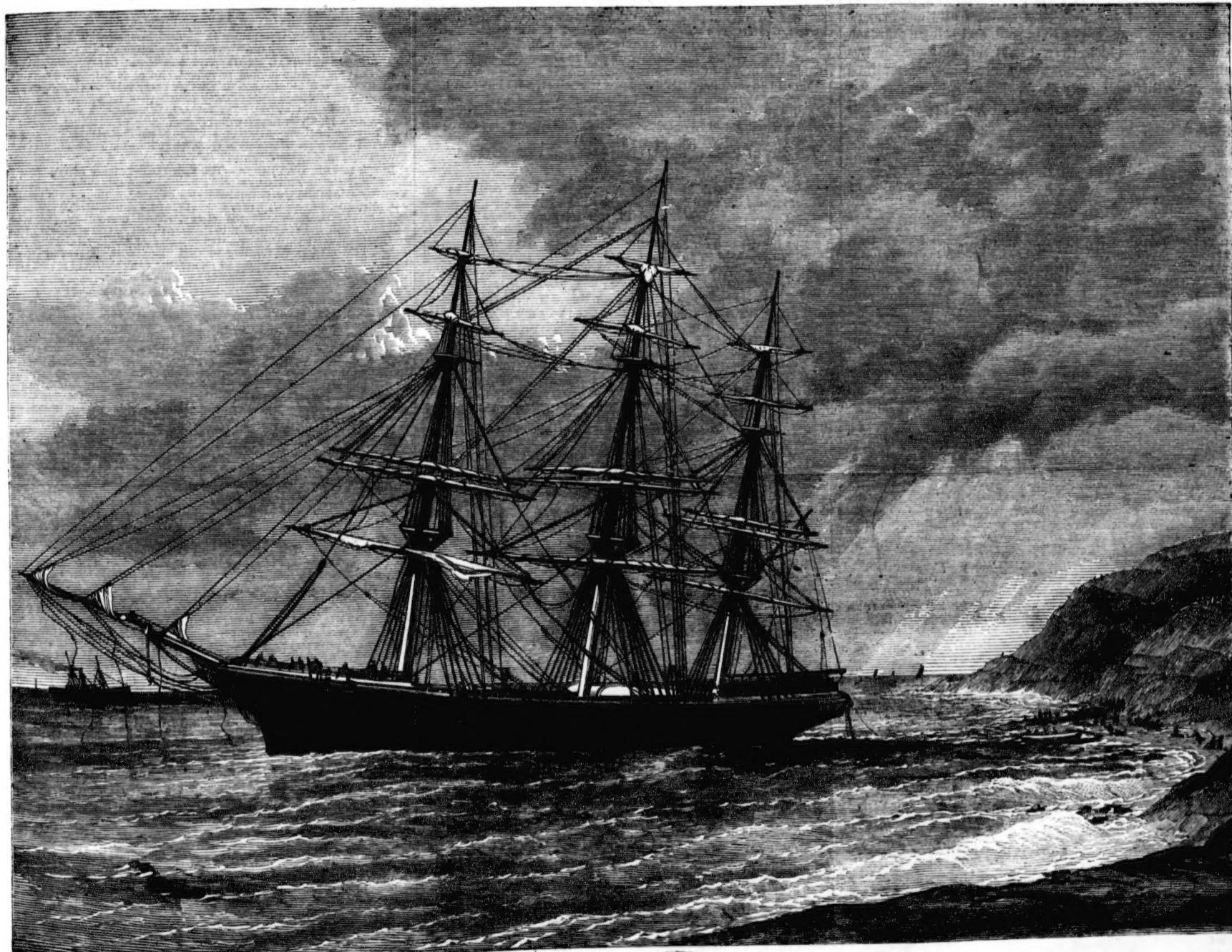
A TERRIBLE scandal has come upon the Church. Two eminent members of the Anglican hierarchy—the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Winchester—lately conducted Divine service in the parish church of Glengarry, in the Scottish Highlands—of course, a Presbyterian edifice; and a mighty bother, a violent storm in the ecclesiastical teacup, has been raised thereon. The newspapers have been flooded with letters on the subject: from indignant clergymen protesting against this prostitution of sacred prelatical functions; from laymen describing the ceremonial with a view to show that the Scottish, and not the English, form of worship was followed—or, at least, that there was a mixture of the two; editorial articles have been indicted on the occurrence; the offending Prelates have been called to account, and have severally excused, or justified, their conduct; and, most notable and most impressive of all, Bishop Eden, calling himself "Primus of Scotland," is sadly offended because his leave was not first obtained by the chief offender, the Archbishop of York.

Now, in what way can any one of the protesting parties, or anybody else, have been injured by so simple an affair as a couple of English prelates conducting a religious service in a Presbyterian church? Indeed, what right has any one of said protesters, or anyone else, to be offended therat at all?

The indignant clergymen are in no way compromised by the deeds of their ecclesiastical superiors, who, indeed, are so far above them as to be practically beyond their censure—have, in fact, the right to censure, and are not liable to censure from, mere parish parsons. Nor can religion be compromised, for it must be a good and acceptable thing to see brethren dwelling—and worshipping—together in amity, albeit they differ in opinion as to certain points of church polity and on certain forms of religious ceremonial. Not the parish minister of Glengarry, for he gave his free consent, like a Christian gentleman, to the use of his church for the occasion; nay, was very much obliged to the prelates for ministering to one portion of his flock while he was engaged in a like duty to another portion in a distant part of the parish. Not the parishioners of Glengarry, for none of them have complained; nay, one of them—a simple shepherd, of true-blue Presbyterian sentiments—declared that he found the Bishop of Winchester's discourse "vera edifying." Not the Established Church of Scotland apparently, for, so far as we have seen, no minister or official of that Church has uttered a word of objection.

Then why should rural parsons in England, or the so-called "Primus" of Scotland, feel aggrieved? and what prompts them to throw obloquy on a simple act of Christian brotherhood? Did the Anglican prelates suffer contamination—

did they soil their lawn sleeves—by entering a Presbyterian church, and coming into contact with the appurtenances of Presbyterian worship? Does a clergyman of the English Church necessarily lose something of his sacred character by officiating in a building, or using a form of words, other than those consecrated and sanctioned by the particular community to which he belongs? If so, things have changed greatly since the days of St. Paul, who scrupled not to preach in—or at—heathen temples, and to be all things to all men if peradventure he might thereby save some. That Apostle once found himself in Corinth, and there he preached in the Temple of Diana, without dreaming that he thereby desecrated his sacred office; nay, he even took advantage of finding an altar inscribed "To the Unknown God" to declare his Master's message to men, and to tell them that what they blindly worshipped he revealed to them. Are Presbyterian kirks less sacred than heathen temples? and are Bishops in the nineteenth century more holy than was the greatest of the Apostles in the first? And if not, how can the one be contaminated by an act like unto that which defiled not the other? Finally, does not the clerical indignation manifested at the ministrations of Anglican prelates in a Presbyterian church have its source in spiritual pride and narrow sectarianism, which can see no good in any Nazareth that is not of their own selection—no



THE PASSENGER-SHIP UNDERLEY ASHORE AT DUNNOE POINT, NEAR VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT.



real Christianity beyond the pale of their own community? Out upon such senseless, selfish bigotry! and all honour to the prelates who have had sufficient courage and sufficient Christian charity to ignore it!

That much for the protests of indignant Anglican clergymen. A word as to the right of Bishop Eden to take exception to the conduct of Dr. Thompson in daring to preach and pray publicly in Scotland without permission from the "Primus." Who is Bishop Eden, and who invested him with this title of "Primus of Scotland?" The law of Scotland knows nothing of him, of his title, nor of any power or authority it confers. That law recognises no ecclesiastical authority north of the Tweed save one—the Presbyterian Established Church; and though it accords freedom of worship to all sects—Episcopalians included—it is cognisant of legal status in one only. Bishop Eden, therefore, has no *locus standi*; he is himself neither more nor less than the minister of a tolerated creed; and while we would protest most emphatically against any limitation of his religious liberty, we protest with equal emphasis against any assumption on his part, or that of the small body he represents, to tolerate, much more to restrain, the freedom of others. We know, of course, that by a fiction the Episcopal Church in Scotland affects to represent, and to claim authority by so affecting to represent, the Church forcibly imposed upon Scotland by Archbishop Laud and King Charles I.; but we also know that the Scottish people, excited by the example of the redoubtable Jenny Geddes and her "cutty stool," emphatically and successfully repudiated "Black Prelacy," and would have none of it—a repudiation since sanctioned by law and sanctified by time. Bishop Eden, then, is in Scotland simply a private gentleman, who writes "Right Reverend" before his name because nobody cares, and nobody desires, to interfere with his so doing. But it is really a little too much for the head of probably the smallest sect in Scotland to assume a right to dictate what shall be done, or who shall officiate, in a Scottish parish church; and we hesitate not to characterise the outcry raised by Bishop Eden and others touching the performances of Drs. Thompson and Wilberforce in the kirk of Glengarry as making "much ado about nothing," if it be not something worse—an exhibition, to wit, of that spiritual pride and love of domination, of that bigotry and narrowness of soul, to which ecclesiastics of all sects are, as a rule, unhappily so prone. Will clergymen never learn to think more of the Truth than of its ministers, of the thing to be taught than of the teachers, of Christianity than of sectarianism, of their Master's work than of their own importance? Will they never cease to make much ado about nothing, to fuss and wrangle over rites, and forms, and names, and persons, while they neglect the weightier matters of the law, sow dissension where peace ought to prevail, and bring a reproach upon that Gospel which they should not only preach but personify? It is a sad reflection, but a true one, exemplified once more by this Glengarry affair, that clergymen have yet to learn the beauty and the worth of that greatest of all Christian virtues—Charity.

THE LATE VIOLENT GALES.

The heavy gales of last week have caused a large number of serious disasters to shipping on the coast. Several shipwrecks are reported, and numerous lives have been lost. Among the saddest of the wrecks reported is that of the ship James Booth, which, whilst in the Bay of Biscay, on the 27th ult., was struck by a heavy sea and immediately sank. Out of a crew of twenty, nineteen were drowned. The survivor, James Marker, the carpenter, got upon a piece of timber when the vessel sank, and was picked up the next day by the Royal Tar, in which ship he has arrived at Brixham. In the midst of a heavy gale, last Saturday, the Italian barque Three Sisters ran ashore at Donna Noe, on the coast of Lincolnshire. The captain, the mate, and four of the crew were rescued by the life-boat, but the pilot and eight of the crew were drowned.

The scene depicted in our Engraving is another result of the gales. It represents the stranding of a splendid full-rigged ship below the Landslip, a short distance from Lucombe Chine, Isle of Wight. At an early hour on Tuesday morning, Sept. 26, news had spread all along the eastern coast of the island that a large vessel was on shore to the westward of Dunnose, and a glance in that direction gave sad confirmation of the truth of the report, for the lofty masts of what was evidently a very large vessel were seen oscillating with the motion of the waves, apparently right in shore, just beyond the frowning promontory that marks the western boundary of the bay. The spot at which she came on shore was some five or six hundred yards to the westward of Lucombe Chine, on a portion of the beach strewn with huge masses of storm-riven rock, the shattered remains of the Landslip, and it certainly presented, under the dull aspect of the cloud-laden sky and the seething waters of a scarcely-subsided gale, about as forbidding and dangerous-looking a spot as a mariner could wish to avoid. The stranded vessel proved to be the Underley, a full-rigged ship of 1200 tons burden, outward bound from London to Melbourne, with a general cargo and about thirty passengers on board. She was a splendid copper-built vessel, and looked the beau ideal of what one would imagine a fast-sailing passenger-vessel should be for the long voyage she had before her. It appears that at about three o'clock on Tuesday morning, during a strong gale of wind from the south-east, the vessel came bows on to the shore, with all her sails set, which, on her touching the shore, were immediately taken in, but too late to prevent her becoming fixed among the rocks. The coastguard at Lucombe witnessed the catastrophe, and immediately signalled the adjoining stations at Ventnor and Shanklin, from which assistance speedily arrived, and the rocket apparatus for landing ship-wrecked persons was got ready for use if required; but the pilot who was on board expressed a belief that he should be able to take the vessel off with the rise of the tide. This expectation, unfortunately, was not realised, for between seven and eight o'clock she sheered round and lay broadside on the shore, at a distance of little over one hundred yards from high-water mark, and in a position that threatened to leave her high and dry at low water. The Grinder, Government tug, Mr. Reuben Main, master, arrived from Portsmouth at the scene of the accident, and made an ineffectual attempt to get the vessel off, but the warps all snapped and the attempt was abandoned. Between ten and eleven o'clock, it having become evident that under the most favourable circumstances no further attempt to get the vessel off could be made until high water on Tuesday night, the passengers were put in the long-boat and taken on

board the Government steamer, which conveyed them to Portsmouth, where the Grinder shipped some heavier hawsers, and, accompanied by Lloyd's agent belonging to that port, again went to the assistance of the stranded vessel. The Medusa, 2, paddle, Staff Commander Polkinghorne, had also been dispatched to render assistance, and remained by the Underley till the Grinder's return. All efforts to get the Underley off, however, failed, and she subsequently broke up.

An inquest was held at Ryde, on Wednesday, by Mr. Potter, Deputy Coroner for the Isle of Wight, on the body of Ricks Sutton Grove, steward of the Underley, which was found in the morning near the ship. The deceased was washed overboard on the day after the Underley was wrecked, and was drowned while making for the shore. Although a good swimmer, he was unable to combat with the heavy sea then raging, and he sank before aid could reach him. A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THERE is still a difficulty in the way of the settlement of the Alsace Treaty, and it is considered necessary that M. Pouyer-Quertier should go to Berlin to discuss the matter with Prince Bismarck. One great difficulty, the payment of the fourth half-milliard, is removed, M. Pouyer-Quertier having arranged with Messrs. Rothschild and other large bankers for its payment.

The Government has appointed a court of inquiry for the trial of all officers who capitulated during the war. Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers is the president.

The new taxes which came into operation on the 1st inst. are severely felt in Paris, and are causing much dissatisfaction.

Two notorious Communists have escaped from their prison at Versailles, and the circumstance has caused some alarm, as it is suspected there must have been complicity on the part of the keepers of the prison.

The President of the Republic does not intend to raise the state of siege in the department of the Seine before the reassembling of the Chamber. This state of siege, however, is virtually abolished, as the Government will no longer have recourse to the exceptional powers at its disposal, except for the vigorous repression of any attempt at disorder.

The course of parties in relation to the elections to the Conseils Généraux is now clearly defined, and there is reason to expect that these elections will have almost the same results as those of July. In some of the southern departments the Radicals will be successful. The Bonapartists calculate upon some successes in the northern departments. In the central, western, and eastern departments the Moderate Republicans and the Conservative Liberals appear to have the best prospects.

The Commission which was appointed to revise the military promotions has announced that it has concluded its task, so far as relates to the superior officers. This category does not include more than 200 names, and there remain yet to be considered 5000 other appointments.

The colonels of the various regiments garrisoned in Paris have informed the officers serving under them that any of them who are seen walking in the streets with women of bad character will be put under arrest.

Baron Arnim seems to have renewed his remonstrances in reference to the treatment of his countrymen at Lyons, and to have declared that Germany would be contented with no half measures. M. de Rémusat, in replying, promised, it is said, that the French Government would adopt severe measures for the prevention of excesses.

Up to Tuesday 6000 Communist prisoners had been liberated by the military tribunals; 26,000 still remained prisoners. The sentence of death passed by the court-martial of Versailles on Gaston, Crémieux, Pelissier, Etienne, and Roux has been commuted to imprisonment for twenty years in a fortified place. M. Victor Hugo visited M. Rochefort at the Orangery, on Wednesday, and is making the most strenuous efforts to obtain a commutation of the sentence. Maroteau, a journalist, who has just been condemned to death, was one of the most violent writers on the side of the Communists. An article from his pen advocating the assassination of the Archbishop of Paris and others was the cause of the sentence unanimously passed upon him.

The City of Paris Loan has been subscribed thirteen times.

SWITZERLAND.

The International Telegraph Commission have come to an agreement on the principle of equality of rates and advantages for the different States concerned in the telegraph lines between England and India. Mr. Wines, who is deputy by the President of the United States to invite Switzerland to the Congress which is to be held in London next year on the subject of prison discipline, has arrived here.

ITALY.

The anniversary of the plébiscite at Rome was celebrated here, on Monday, by a distribution of prizes to the schools of the city. The distribution was made in the public square of the capital, M. Lanza, the Minister, and other public officers assisting. Signor Placidi delivered an address to the scholars, who subsequently joined in a vocal performance, which was enthusiastically applauded. The city is decorated. The greatest order prevails.

SPAIN.

The King finished his triumphal tour on Sunday, when he returned to Madrid. In the course of his travels his Majesty received 30,000 petitions; and, so far as the poor and the cause of charity are concerned, he left pleasant souvenirs through the distribution of about £50,000. The reception which his Majesty met with seems to have been invariably of the most gratifying character. Nowhere, perhaps, was the King more truly gratified and moved than on his entry into Logrono, where the trusty patriot and tried veteran of Spain, Marshal Espartero, came forth to meet and welcome him. The meeting between the King and the Duke de la Victoria was of a very touching character, and his Majesty was greatly affected by the loyal and affectionate welcome of the gallant veteran, who, in a neat but fervid speech, welcomed the new Monarch, and devoted his sword to his service.

At the sitting of the Cortes on Tuesday the voting for the Presidency of the Chamber took place. There were two candidates—Senor Rivero (the Government nominee) and Senor Sagasta. The former obtained 113 votes and the latter 123. In consequence of this defeat Senor Zorrilla demanded the suspension of the sitting, in order that the Ministry might tender its resignation to the King, which was accordingly done. The King asked Marshal Espartero to undertake the formation of a Cabinet, but the Marshal declined on the score of ill-health. The popular feeling does not seem to approve the vote of the Cortes, for on Wednesday several demonstrations in honour of Senor Zorrilla were made during the day. At three p.m. a meeting was held at the Prado. There was a great display of banners bearing the following inscriptions:—"Long live a Radical Ministry!" "Morality!" "Economy!" "Dissolution of the Cortes!" and a large portrait of Marshal Prim, with the words, "Radicals, let us defend ourselves!" was also exhibited in the streets. The crowd proceeded to the palace amid shouts of "Long live the national Sovereign!" The King, Senor Zorrilla, and many members of the Progressive Party, among whom were Sarmiento Martos, Becerril, Slane, Salmeron, Laguena, Palacio, Carmona, Alaminos were present.

PORUGAL.

The revolt at Goa is over, and order has been completely established. The Government has rescinded the expeditionary preparation. The British squadron has returned to the Tagus from its cruise.

GERMANY.

The French indemnity having lowered the price of gold here,

the German Government intend to adopt a gold standard. Forty-six and a half ten-thaler pieces are to be coined out of one pound of fine gold. The measure will probably be carried out very shortly.

Baden and Bavaria, renouncing their right of accrediting diplomats, will henceforth be represented by the German Imperial diplomatic. After this only Wurtemberg and Darmstadt will maintain regular Embassies abroad.

The next Session of the Reichstag, which is expected not to be of long duration, will be opened about the middle of the current month. The most important bill to be laid before the House will be the Imperial Budget for 1872, when the Reichstag will for the first time have to vote the expenditure for the Imperial army. In case the Imperial Government should not be in a position to lay the exact estimates for the Imperial army before the Reichstag, still the maximum expenditure for the army next year would be fixed. Bills will likewise be brought in for raising salaries, pensions, the relative positions of Imperial officials, reform of the money system, the application of the war contributions, and the establishment of an Imperial war treasury. The bill for regulating the press laws will probably not be brought forward till the next Spring Session.

A meeting of Protestants held in this city has passed a resolution declaring it to be a duty of the German nation to oppose most energetically the dogma of infallibility, inasmuch as such dogma is contrary to the sovereignty of the State, the harmony of creeds, and the freedom of mind and conscience. Another resolution declares it necessary to prohibit the Order of Jesus in Germany, and to exclude them from schools.

DENMARK.

Among the bills about to be submitted by the Government to the Rigsdag is the draught for a Customs law, and another for imposing a stamp duty on home and foreign money transactions. The bill stamps will be raised in amount. The Budget for the financial year 1872-3 shows a deficiency of about two million dollars. The surplus of last year being 600,000 dols., it is proposed to cover the deficiency of 1,400,000 dols. by an income tax of 3½ per cent for two years.

SWEDEN.

The Second Chamber rejected, by 109 against 78 votes, the Government proposal for maintaining the Indelta system. The Government bill has therefore been rejected by the Reichstag. In consequence of the rejection of the Government National Defence Bill by the Second Chamber, all the Ministry have tendered their resignation to the King, as not being able to bring the question of the national defences to a satisfactory solution. His Majesty has accepted the resignation of the Ministers, and has at once taken steps for the formation of a new Cabinet.

TURKEY.

Ernín Bey, the secretary to the Sultan, is taking very strong measures for the repression of the cholera in Constantinople. Around one of the quarters in Pera he has drawn a cordon, which no one is permitted to cross. As a matter of course, much inconvenience is felt by such a measure, and there is consequently a good deal of grumbling.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Washington Claims Commission is now organised, and has selected Count Corti chairman. Rules have been adopted admitting to hearing all claims having any colour of justice. The hearings will begin in December. The Commission has adjourned to Nov. 14.

AUSTRALIA.

The Legislative Assembly at Melbourne has passed the new Tariff Bill imposing duties of from 10 to 20 per cent on nearly all woollen piece goods, manufactures of metal, &c.

SEÑOR ARAJUAR, astronomer in Madrid, is reported to have discovered a new planet, which he has designated "Conception."

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION was closed last Saturday. As the objects exhibited were limited in extent, and as it is intended to have an exhibition of one department or another every year, this Exhibition has from the first attracted less attention than any of its predecessors, and its close was devoid of any striking feature, the numbers not being much larger than on an ordinary shilling day. The undertaking, however, is said to have been successful in a financial point of view as well as in its more scientific aim. Upwards of 1,100,000 visitors have been admitted since the opening in May last.

DISTRIBUTION OF PLANTS.—The First Commissioner of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings intends to distribute this autumn, among the working classes and the poor inhabitants of London, the surplus bedding-out plants in Battersea, Hyde, Regent's, and Victoria Parks, and in the Royal Gardens, Kew. If the clergy, school committees, and other interested will make application to the superintendents of the parks nearest to their respective parishes, or to the director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, in the case of persons residing in that neighbourhood, they will receive early intimation of the number of plants that can be allotted to each applicant, and of the time and manner of their distribution.

MENTAL DISORDERS IN PARIS.—Contrary to what might be expected, the returns of the Paris lunatic asylums show a diminution of madness. Since the first investment of Paris suicides have become unusually rare. Political excitement kept persons of a gloomy turn of mind from brooding over their own special troubles. It may be that siego rations also exerted a favourable influence over hypochondriacal subjects. The form of mental alienation most frequent just now is idiotic stupor. It is more observable in women than in men. This may be explained by the greater excitability of female nerves, and the proportionate consumption of vital force. A woman taken to the Salpêtrière in the month of June was found motionless and inert in a cellar where she had been staying many days. She has ever since continued in the same state. Another, who had seen her son shot in cold blood, fell into a state of idiotic torpor, from which she shows no signs of recovery. People stricken recently with insanity of a more acute sort are haunted by the terrors of the Commune and the entry of the Versailles troops into Paris. They imagine that they are arrested and going to be shot, and groan and cry for mercy. Some cases of madness broke out in the siege-batteries among the Versailles artillerymen, one of whom saw five of his comrades killed near him by the bursting of a shell.

CHARIVARI.—The time-honoured custom from which the word "charivari" is derived has just led to a domestic drama, which gives an insight into the manners and morals of the French village of La Ruscade, in the department of the Gironde. In the Middle Ages a charivari consisted in an assemblage of ragamuffins, who, armed with tin pots and pans, fire shovels, and kettles, gathered in the dark outside the house of any obnoxious person, and made night hideous by striking the pots against the pans and howling, "Haro! haro!" or (in the southern countries) "Hari! hari!" whence the word "charivari." The nuisance must have been pushed to great lengths, and the victims (chiefly elderly gentlemen who had taken young wives, or elderly widows who had remarried) must occasionally have been persons of quality; for in 1563 the Council of Trent took up the matter, and solemnly interdicted charivaris under pain of excommunication. Nevertheless, the practice survived and continues flourishing to this day in many parts of France, notably in the village of La Ruscade aforesaid. In this delightful locality a young girl named Maynard, having yielded to the wiles of a seductive farmer's son called Hervé, was treated to a tin-pot serenade by her rejected suitors, the music lasting from eleven o'clock p.m. till one in the morning. Hervé, hearing of this the next day, vowed that if the thing were repeated he would be even with one Fougère, the chief serenader, and riddle him with buck-shot; which he accordingly proceeded to do that very night—half the shot lodging in Fougère's face and the other half in his right arm. On seeing their leader fall Fougère's comrades at once fled and rushed to his parents' house, inviting his father to go and pick him up; but this the father absolutely declined to do until the garrulous scoundrel had arrived from the village five miles off and seen the exact spot where his son was struck down. The night therefore passed without any relief being extended to the wounded man, his father affectionately mounting guard over him with a stick to keep the meddlers off, and refusing to let so much as a pillow be brought to prop the sufferer's head. At the trial of young Hervé (who was acquitted) before the Assize Court of Bordeaux it was elicited that nobody ever walked about La Ruscade after nightfall without carrying a gun; that no Ruscadian would ever succour a wounded man or cut down a hanging one until the police had arrived; that charivaris were of frequent occurrence, being neither forbidden by the Mayor nor disapproved by the Curé; and that most charivaris terminated with the death of somebody. A reference to the coloured map that used to be issued yearly by the Ministry of Public Instruction shows that the arrondissement in which La Ruscade stands is painted blue, which means "moral and education fair." One is led to speculate on the condition of things in the less favoured districts which are painted black.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

ROME AND THE POPE.

Rome, Sept. 28.

THERE are, I presume, persons in England who sincerely believe that a large number of the inhabitants of Rome are really adherents of the Pope. This with them is a matter of faith, and consequently no amount of human evidence would convince them of their delusion. It is a pity that they have not been here during the last few days. If ever a people were united upon a question of politics, the Romans have shown themselves to be united in their thankfulness for having become citizens of Italy, instead of being the slaves of a power which has long forced them to submit to its dictates by depriving them of arms and casting them into prison if they endeavoured to resist the foreign mercenaries by whose aid it supported its sway. That in the nineteenth century there is one of those self-evident absurdities which few persons of common-sense would believe, though vouched for by all the hierarchy of the Catholic Church and by every Englishman who has become a Roman Catholic. Were the middle classes here to tell me that they regretted losing the rule of their former masters I might have some difficulty in believing them; but, one and all, they say that they do not regret it, and I have no difficulty in regarding them as sincere in their assertions. In England the Established Church has but little power, but even of this little we are jealous. Is it to be supposed that we would allow the ministers of that Church to arrogate to themselves the right to occupy every post of trust and power in the kingdom, and to govern us with the theories of the Middle Ages? There have, indeed, been wise and enlightened despots, but the despotism of the Popes was neither a wise nor an enlightened one. It was the small, petty tyranny of men who, from their profession, were unfit to mingle in the affairs of the world, and who considered that a magistrate was a schoolmaster and the people were schoolboys. With high-sounding professions of honesty, the greater number of the Ministers of Pius IX., were thoroughly corrupt men. Cardinal Antonelli has amassed an immense fortune; and his brother, who possessed the tobacco and other monopolies, is a millionaire. Impediments were thrown in the way of all commercial development, because any man of energy or enterprise was supposed to be a Liberal. Even railroads were disconveniences, as being considered dangerous innovations. In Rome itself there were more beggars than in any other capital in the world. Every third man in the streets was either a monk or a priest. The streets were ill-paved and ill-drained; the shops were more like hovels than places of business. In the country around, where the land had not been deserted owing to the malaria, the peasants were poor, ignorant, dishonest, and in league with the brigands, who were seldom infested provided they declared themselves enemies of Italy and of Liberalism. I passed a winter in Rome a few years ago, and I do not hesitate to say that the earth was never cursed with a wiser Government, and since the destruction of the Cities of the Plain a city more immoral in every sense of the word has not existed. Every crime under the sun might have been committed, and was committed, provided it was done decorously and not paraded in the light of day.

Although it is now a year since the Pope was deposed from his temporal throne, Rome will not become practically the capital of Italy until the Legislative Body meets there. A large hall in the Palace of the Monte Citorio is being prepared for it, and is now nearly ready. The Quirinal, too, is being furnished from the Palace at Caserta for the King, and the Ministers are slowly moving southwards from Florence. There is great difficulty in finding accommodation for the different employés; the Romans have raised their rents so extortiously that unless salaries are augmented it will be impossible for Government clerks to hire a roof to cover them. Apartments now cost rather more than they did in Paris when the Empire was in full swing. Ambassadors say that it is impossible for them to lodge themselves befittingly under £1500 per annum. The Roman "Princes" have closed their palaces, and decline to let them to the enemies of the Pope. It seems to me that these Princes ought to share in the fate of the monks, and to be "expropriated." They are the only Romans who remain faithful to the temporal power, and there is nothing surprising in this fidelity. They have been educated by priests; their miserable ambition has been to hang a key to their coattails as chamberlains, or to hold a candle in some procession. They are poor, weak, effeminate creatures, utterly unfitted by habit or inclination to become citizens in a free State. In their whole lifetime they have done nothing but go to church in the morning, flirt in the afternoon at the Pincio, and look demure at solemn tedious parties in the evening. Those who are rich have benefited no one except priests and monks by their wealth; those who are poor have dawdled away their existence in the vain hope that some day an American or English heiress will fall in love with them and their titles.

The Roman municipality, although it is a good deal taken to task for its shortcomings, appears to me to have already made some progress in its work of civilisation. The streets are decidedly cleaner than they were, and the number of beggars has considerably reduced. After the expulsion of King Francis from Naples the scoundrelism of Rome was recruited by many thousands of Neapolitans, who lived from hand to mouth at the doors of the different convents, and who were allowed to bully and bluster, provided they were ready to shout for the King Pope at all popular demonstrations. These worthies have been sent off to pick up a living elsewhere. Instead of the Papal mercenaries, who were recruited from the scum of Catholic countries, the National Guards, composed mainly of the middle classes, do duty as sentinels in many parts of the town, and are ready to turn out at once to put an end to disorders. There are also policemen—decent, well-behaved men—in all the streets. Many of the monasteries have been broken up, and the idle drones who inhabited them have been sent back to their homes with a trifling allowance. Of priests the name is still legion. But this is also the case in Naples and in many other Italian cities. It is to be hoped that the Government will take some means to suit the supply of them to the demand. About one twentieth of the present number would be amply sufficient for the spiritual requirements of the community. One sees them now gossiping, taking snuff, and buying lottery tickets at every corner. As the "company mania" appears likely to break out shortly in England with great virulence, I would suggest to some speculators to get up a "Rome Improvements Company."

A few good modern streets laid out in some part of the city which is now unbuilt on would, I should think, be a paying speculation. Rome greatly wants, too, a good wide central street with large shops. The Corso, which is now the boulevard of the town, is so narrow that even at this season, when the city is far from being full, it is almost impassable. As for the shops, they are, as in every other city of Italy, with the exception of Turin and Milan, rather inferior to those of an Eastern town. When one wants to buy anything in them it is necessary either to be cheated or to pass half an hour in bargaining. Time, indeed, in Italy is a very vague term. There are four clocks in this hotel, and there is a difference in each of them of about half an hour. The trains are supposed to run by the time of Rome, but Rome, alas! seems to have no time. At the stations there are no clocks, and the unfortunate traveller is obliged to hang about for half an hour lest the train should start without him. Speaking of trains reminds me of another abuse. After the luggage is weighed and paid for, if any box is not locked it is put aside, and the owner is told that it will be left behind. In vain he protests, the clerk is inexorable. A porter then comes forward and offers for a gratuity of two francs to tie a piece of cord round it, and after this formality it is accepted. There is a slight vestige of sense in refusing to accept the responsibility of taking charge of a box which is not locked. But why is a piece of cord considered an equiva-

lent for a lock? The difference between a strap and a cord is surely a distinction without a difference. I suspect that the owner of the cord and the weighing clerk divide the two francs, and by this nonsense they must at a central station make a very handsome yearly revenue. Italy is now competing for the Indian passenger traffic, and to be successful it must cease these small, petty pilferings. It would do no harm, too, if the railway companies were not to allow the crowd of touts and idlers who now persecute the traveller on his arrival like a cloud of locusts to infest their premises. An Italian tout is worse than any other, for he will take no denial. "Half a word is enough" is an Italian proverb which the Italians have frequently on their lips, but unfortunately they do not practise it. The other day I arrived at Salerno with a small hand-bag, which I determined to carry with me to the hotel. I was followed the whole way by five fiacres, seven porters, and a dozen unattached small boys. The fiacres tried to run over me because I would not get into one of them, the porters made snatches at my bag, and the unattached boys volunteered to show me the way.

It is expected that the King will take up his residence in the Quirinal towards the end of October. The Ministers as yet wander over the country in a homeless, houseless manner. A portion of their staffs are still at Florence, another portion at Rome. A Cabinet Council is to be held here shortly, when it is said a definite plan for the expropriation of the monks will be decided on. The Legislative Body will not probably meet before the month of December. During the ensuing winter everything will be provisional, and I doubt whether Rome will be a very agreeable residence; but if in a few years it does not become what Paris was—the fashionable centre of Europe—it will be the fault of the Romans, for they have the ball at their feet. I have not been able to learn when the Tiber is to be drained. The scientific here seem to consider that it is very doubtful whether anything of great value will be recovered from its bed. Its stream is so impetuous that this mud must have been renewed every successive year, and consequently most of what has been thrown into the river has been already fished out of it. As for the seven-branched candlestick of the Temple, I should be sorry to give five shillings to acquire an absolute right of property in it. No scheme for putting an end to the malaria which renders the plain round the city uninhabitable has yet assumed a practical form. The capital of Italy cannot, however, consent to be surrounded by a dreary pestiferous waste.—*Correspondent of "Daily News."*

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON ON THE DAY OF SEDAN.

The Gaulois publishes, by permission and in anticipation, some extracts from a work on the eve of publication, by General Ducrot, upon the memorable capitulation of Sedan. These extracts relate especially to conversations of the General with the Emperor Napoleon. After speaking of the indescribable confusion which prevailed in the town during the night and early morning before the surrender—the streets, the squares, and the gates being blocked with carriages, cannons, and all the incumbrances of an army in retreat, and bands of soldiers without rifles and without knapsacks running about in all directions, and taking refuge in houses and churches—he says:—"Some men who had preserved a remnant of energy seemed to use it only in accusations, exclaiming, 'We have been betrayed; we have been sold by traitors and cowards.' There was evidently nothing to be done with such men." Under these circumstances he (the General) proceeded to the sub-prefecture, where the Emperor was. "Napoleon III," he proceeds to say, "had no longer that cold, unimpassioned countenance with which all the world is familiar. The cruel emotions which agitated him had imprinted on his face an aspect of profound sadness. As soon as he saw the General (General Ducrot himself) he said to him that he had deeply regretted the nomination by the Minister of War of General Wimpffen to the command-in-chief; but that, being resolved not to contravene in any respect the decisions which came from Paris, he had not wished to oppose it. However," added he, "there was nothing but your movement of retreat that could save us." Then, alluding to the events anterior to the war, he added, "Your sentiments as to the intentions of Prussia, what you said to me respecting its military forces and the small means which we should have of opposing them, all that was but too true. I ought to have paid more heed to your warnings and advice." After these few words the Emperor was silent. The profound stillness which reigned around the Sovereign made yet more startling the noise outside; the air seemed on fire; the shells falling on the roofs, hurled down pieces of masonry, which crashed on the street pavement; the bursting of the projectiles was mingled with the rumbling of 600 mouths of fire—a frightful cannonade, which was heard even before Metz by Prince Frederick Charles. "I don't understand," said the Emperor to General Ducrot, "why the enemy continues the fire; I have caused the flag of truce to be hoisted. I hope to obtain an interview with the King of Prussia; perhaps I shall secure advantageous conditions for the army." "I do not reckon much," replied the General, "upon the generosity of our enemies; at night we might be able to attempt a sortie." His Majesty observed that there was such disorder, such obstruction in the town, and, moreover, the troops were so demoralised, that there was not the least hope of success. "An attempt of that sort," he added, "would only end in fresh bloodshed." The Emperor and some officers of his suite might, favoured by night, have escaped, but he thought of nothing but saving the army. Surrounded, cut off, it was inevitably captured. History will declare whether, contrary to military laws, Napoleon III. should, by a flight which would certainly have been aided, have separated his own lot from that of the army; or whether, having shared its dangers, he ought to have shared its misfortune. For the rest, the King of Prussia having declared that he made war against the Emperor, and not France, the Emperor being a prisoner the war should have ceased.

THE NEW POSTAL RATES.—It may be worth while to remind the public that the new rates of postage came into operation on Tuesday. The letter postage will still be a penny, but the penny stamp will cover all letters not exceeding 1 oz., while only an additional halfpenny stamp will be required for letters above 1 oz. and under 2 oz. The following are the details of the new tariff:—For a letter not exceeding 1 oz., 1d.; exceeding 1 oz., but not exceeding 2 oz., 1½d.; exceeding 2 oz., but not exceeding 4 oz., 2d.; exceeding 4 oz., but not exceeding 6 oz., 2½d.; exceeding 6 oz., but not exceeding 8 oz., 3d.; exceeding 8 oz., but not exceeding 10 oz., 3½d.; exceeding 10 oz., but not exceeding 12 oz., 4d. This tariff is limited to 12 oz., and letters above that weight will be charged at the rate of 1d. an ounce. All the difficulties about the pattern and sample post will be met by this great reduction in the letter postage, which, taken together with the post cards and the book post, renders our postal service the cheapest, as it is the most efficient, in the world.

SAD CASE OF POISONING BY MISTAKE.—Dr. Lankester, the Coroner for Central Middlesex, has held an inquest at the Stag's Head, Highbury, Kentish Town, on the body of Mary Kate Rowbotham, aged two years and a half, infant daughter of Mr. Samuel Rowbotham, residing at 8, Highbury Villas. Mr. Rowbotham said he was a writer on chemistry and scientific matters, and father of deceased. A short time ago he had a son at a boarding-school in Kent who suffered from skin disease. He had the child home, and to cure him intended to apply some strichnine, taking some out of his medicine-chest which he had kept by him over twenty years, and put it on the mantel-shelf. On Thursday, the 28th ult., he was engaged on a work which he had to finish in a given time; while so engaged his wife asked him to give deceased a dose of henbane. He got up abstractedly, and as he thought did so, placing the bottle back on the mantel-shelf, when his little son said, "Oh, papa, give some; I like it." He poured out ten drops, when the boy said, "Oh, papa, I don't like this." He then looked at the bottle, an ordinary common bottle, and was horrified to find he had taken the wrong bottle. He called to his wife, and ran for a doctor. Mrs. Emily Cooper said she heard Mrs. Rowbotham screaming, and on going to her found deceased apparently in a fit, and was told the father had given it the wrong medicine. The child expired in about fifty minutes. She believed it to be a pure accident, for more affectionate parents could not be. Dr. C. F. Groom said that on proceeding to the house he found deceased suffering from lockjaw. He gave an emetic, but deceased expired in ten minutes. The cause of death was poisoning by strichnine. The jury returned a verdict of "Death by misadventure."

LAUNCH OF A TURRET SHIP.

LAST Saturday her Majesty's twin-screw armour-clad turret ship *Hecate*, four guns, was successfully launched by the builders, Messrs. J. and W. Dudgeon, at their shipbuilding yard, Cubitt Town. About two o'clock gangs of workmen began to knock away the timber cradle in which the vessel lay, the gaspipes used for lighting the ship were disconnected with the ship, and punctually to the time named for the launch the *Hecate* was ready to take the water. On a platform erected close to the ship's bows were the guests invited to witness the ceremony, among whom were Maha Meuhla Kyoden Taden Woon, secretary to the King of Burmah, and now in this country on a special mission; Mr. N. Barnaby, Assistant Constructor to the Board of Admiralty; Mr. J. Luke, Admiralty surveyor and inspector of contract work; Mr. W. S. Roden, M.P.; and Mr. J. C. Bayley, London manager of the firm of Sir John Brown and Co., at whose works in Sheffield the *Hecate's* armour-plate was made. The word was passed to "stand clear," the last supporting wedge was knocked away, and Mrs. Bayley pronounced the ship's name and threw a bottle of champagne which, hanging by a blue ribbon from the deck, was broken against the iron bows as the ponderous monster glided steadily and swiftly, stern first, into the river, where, catching the force of the rising tide, she turned up-stream and was soon hidden from the sight of the launching party.

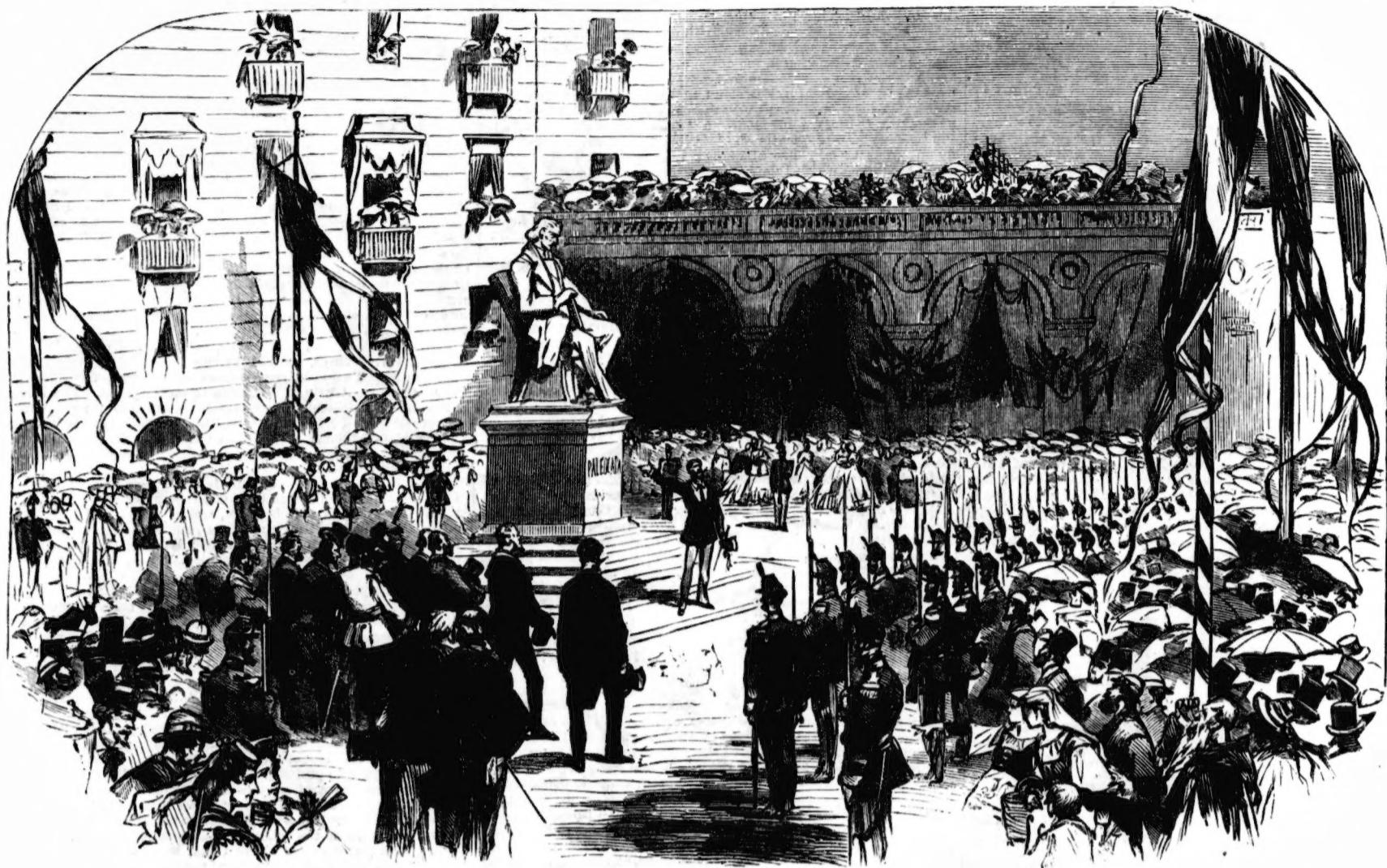
The *Hecate* is one of four vessels, called the "Cyclops" class of Monitor turret ships, ordered by the Government about twelve months ago. Two were ordered from shipbuilders on the Thames, the third on the Clyde, and the fourth on the Tyne. The *Hecate* is the second launched. These vessels are intended for the defence of our coasts and channel seas, and it is confidently expected that they will prove themselves good sea-boats. Two vessels constructed on a similar principle have made excellent passages—one to Melbourne, the *Abyssinia*, built by Messrs. Dudgeon; and another, made for the protection of our Indian possessions, to Bombay. The *Hecate*, of 2107 tons burthen by builders' measurement, is 225 ft. in length, 45 ft. in breadth, and has a depth of 16 ft. in the hold. She is made of iron throughout, and amidships a space about 120 ft. in length is inclosed, roughly speaking, by an elliptical breastwork of defensive armour-plating 9 in. and 10 in. thick, backed by East India teak and lined with two thicknesses of 2-in. iron plate. This bulwark, impenetrable to shot and shell, is carried completely round the vitals of the ship, protecting the engines, the apparatus to be used for steering in battle, and the powder-magazines. Two turrets, similarly plated, rise above this breastwork, by which their revolving bases are protected. Each turret is pierced for two 18-ton guns, which will throw shot and shell weighing about 450 lb. The gun-carriages are placed parallel to each other in the turret, and are fitted with Captain Scott's compressor plates, to counteract the recoil of the gun. Behind the carriage is placed horizontally a cylinder filled with oil and fitted with a piston, against which the carriage presses when the gun is fired, the elasticity of the compressed oil assisting to force the gun back into position. There are also indiarubber buffers to decrease the effect of the shock. The turret is made to perform a complete revolution on its axis in less than one minute by means of a pinion worked by a small auxiliary engine, which is supplied with steam from the boilers of the principal engines. Between the turrets, and raised above them, is an armour-plated pilot-house, in which, during an action, the Captain is to take his place and give his orders to an officer, who communicates them by telegraph to the engine-room and through speaking-tubes to those commanding in the turrets. When the ship is not in battle her course will be directed from the hurricane-deck, on which is the ordinary steering apparatus and a chart-house. On this deck also the ship's boats, lifted by derricks attached to a light iron mast, are to be secured on "crutches" in rough weather. Ventilation is provided for by a downcast air-shaft and steam fans, which will drive fresh air through light iron pipes into all the compartments of the vessel. The armour-plated central portion of the ship has a double bottom, the space between the two skins being divided into water-tight cells, while the unprotected portions fore and aft are divided between decks into compartments separated by iron bulkheads. When afloat the *Hecate* drew 8 ft. 7 in. forward and 11 ft. 10 in. aft; but, when completely armoured and equipped, her draught will be 15 ft. 6 in., the point of the ram with which she is armed being about 10 ft. below the water-line. There are no masts, the constructors trusting entirely to what Admiral Rous calls the "tea-kettle" for the means of driving the ship. She will be propelled by two four-bladed screws, worked by two pairs of engines of 250 nominal horse-power, made by Messrs. Miller and Ravenhill on the banks of the Thames. The ship will be completed in the Millwall Docks and will afterwards be sent to Devonport.

TURIN AND THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.

We this week publish some further illustrations of events connected with the official opening of the tunnel through the Alps, usually known as the Mont Cenis Tunnel, although the tunnel does not really run under Mont Cenis at all. That particular mountain, however, being the most conspicuous object in the vicinity, serves to give a name to the great undertaking as well as any other. On the return from Bordennechia to Turin, on Sept. 17, of the guests who had been invited to be present at the ceremonial, a grand sight awaited them. Those who arrived by the train reaching Turin at half-past eight p.m. found the city en fête and brilliantly illuminated. The beautiful Turin railway station was most splendidly lit up with Bengal lights, and had in front a fine transparency representing Italy and France joining hands, as shown in our Engraving. The long Viale del Re presented a most fantastic sight. The tunnel was most exactly copied, the entrance to it being of the precise proportions; and this long gallery of fire, seen from the square of the railway station, was really fairylike. The streets were full of cabs, running from one hotel to another with travellers just arrived, who found it impossible to get a room. The hotels were so crowded that many persons were obliged to sleep in cafés.

At twelve o'clock precisely, on the 18th, there was the inauguration of the monument erected to Paleocapa, in the Piazza San Quintino. Turin is full of modern monuments, and surely none deserved one better than Paleocapa, whose great works speak better than anything else of his powerful genius as a civil engineer. The ceremony was very simple. A pavilion had been erected under one of the arcades leading to the square. The National Guard kept the square clear from the people. On Prince Carignano arriving and taking his place in the centre of a carpeted platform, Count Cittadella read a long discourse on the memory of his friend whose statue they were about to unveil. When Count Cittadella had finished reading, the veil which covered the statue was removed, and the cheering of the people saluted the memory of a man who had greatly contributed to the achievement of one of those great victories which, far from carrying with them desolation and death, bear blessings to nations and millions. M. Lefranc, the French Minister of Public Works, who had arrived in time for the uncovering of the statue, was presented to Prince Carignano, and after a little chatting signed, with the rest of the authorities present, the *procès verbal* of the ceremony.

Next came the opening of the Industrial Museum of Turin. The ceremony of the inauguration took place in the large courtyard of the palace, which was elegantly covered over with transparent stripes. Signor Castagnola, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, read a long speech, in which he recapitulated all that Italy had been doing since the unification—exhibitions at Florence, at Milan, at Naples; local exhibitions in nearly every one of the hundred cities; important companies for industrial development formed; new commercial relations opened with distant countries; the mercantile marine becoming every day more important; "and," said Signor Castagnola, "why such a marvellous development? Because the people of Italy, like their Sovereign and Government, know and feel that it is their duty



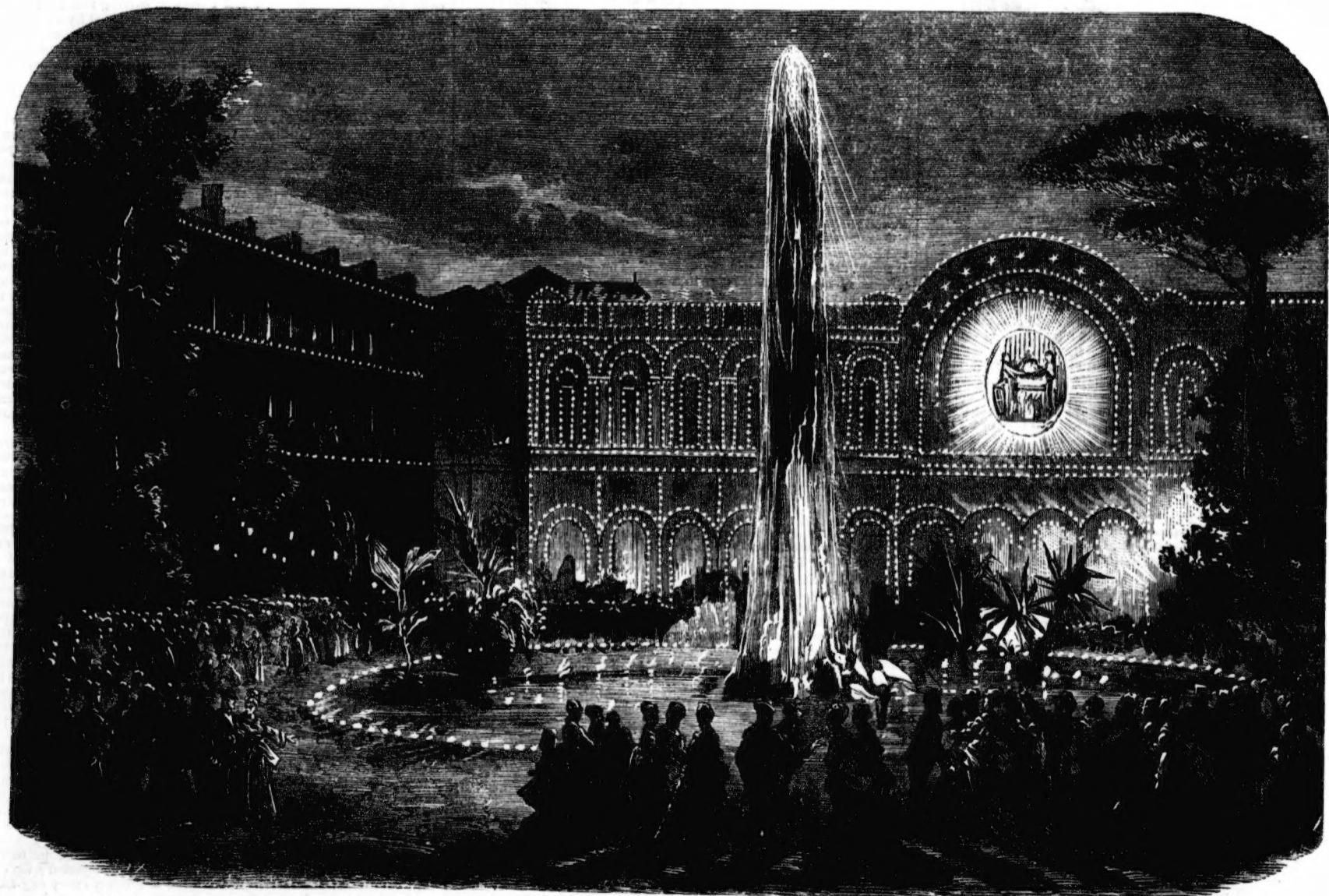
COMPLETION OF THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL: INAUGURATION OF THE STATUE OF PIETRO PALEOCAPA IN THE PIAZZA SAN QUINTINO, TURIN.

to assure to the country tranquillity and peace. This development arises from the fact that we, being united, and having no ambitious aims, can only look forward to what may produce the economical welfare of the people." "It is only just," he continued, "to pronounce a word of admiration for the House of Savoy, a member of which has been pleased to preside over these peaceful fêtes, that as they were ever foremost in leading the Italians to the battle when the nation was not as yet constituted, so likewise are they foremost in protecting and encouraging the material and economical development of their country."

Prince Carignano having declared the museum opened, proceeded, together with the persons present, to inspect its different sections. On his crossing the pavilion the Prince was loudly cheered by the members of the working associations, who, with their respective flags, were ranged along the way. Though quite a new thing, the museum is pretty full of all sorts of national manufactures. Some of the carriages are very well built, more especially some light ambulances for field service. The machine department attracted most the attention of the Prince. A great many things might be noted which hitherto have been sold as "Paris

make," but which now have an *affiche* with the words *manifatturi nazionali*. It seems that since the last disasters manufacturers find it is no longer of use to call French what is Italian, and they have had good sense enough not to change the "Paris make" for a "Berlin make."

In the evening there was a grand banquet given by the municipality of Turin, which proved a great success. There were present Signor Visconti-Venosta, the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs; M. de Rémusat, the French Foreign Minister; M. Lefranc, and many other distinguished personages. The toasts



ILLUMINATION OF THE RAILWAY STATION IN TURIN.



ON CHANGE IN GERMANY: TYPES OF MONEY-BROKERS.

and speeches were replete with sentiments of the most cordial mutual goodwill and hearty congratulations on the completion of one of the most stupendous engineering enterprises of this enterprising age.

The railway section between St. Michel and Modane being completed, it is expected that through service between France and Italy, via the Mont Cenis Tunnel, will be established from the 16th inst.

ON 'CHANGE IN THE FATHERLAND.'

WHEN we hear of a great European loan being taken up on the German Exchange, do we wonder what manner of men are the capitalists who speculate in it, the brokers who distribute the investment, the jobbers who look out for small fluctuations in it, the practitioners who manipulate it, the authorities who command or depreciate it? Probably we should be greatly disappointed if we were introduced to some of them—should fail to trace in their countenances the high enterprise; the furrows of profound calculation; the keen, clear judgment; the vast power of combination, the rare faculty for organising, the habit of rapid decision, the gift of fertile resource, that we imagine must distinguish the financiers whose operations affect whole kingdoms, and either secure or undermine the thrones on which Monarchs sit. A visit to our own Stock Exchange would scarcely satisfy us that the trim, prim, quiet, clean gentlemen who seem to be permanent there, and the quick, well-dressed, rather showy, new-hatted, stiff-wristbanded, men of just a little more than fashion, who swing in and out, were the arbiters of national prosperity to half Europe; and certainly a peep into the Bourse of—well, say of Frankfort,

Hamburg, Leipsic, lest we should offend Berlin and Vienna, would not reassure us. There, as on other money exchanges, there is a great Hebrew element always conspicuous, and yet itself so varying in type as to be difficult to characterise, while in many cases we are scarcely prepared to dive deeply enough into the analysis of character to form all our conclusions from the rules of Lavater. It is better not to be too critical, as a glance at our Illustration (faithful sketch of typical representatives of the great German money interest) will show. One or two of these interesting personages may really have access to untold wealth; and it is always interesting to speculate, not with a man's money, but about the man himself. There is no more disappointing person to be introduced to than a millionaire, a great capitalist, a man of immense influence in the City—a leading financier. Ten to one but you find him nothing at all like what your fancy had painted him. We have, in the old days, seen a great commercial magnate, dressed in a broad-tailed, black coat, tightish trousers, bulgy shoes, and a rather frowsy hat, go into Bannister's, the butcher's, then in Threadneedle-street, and buy a steak to take into the old "Fleece," there to be broiled on the gridiron for his lunch. There was a venerable capitalist who used to dine every day at Izant's for a shilling, though he had a heavy service of plate and a couple of bulky footmen at home. You may hear a shabby, snuffy, wizened-looking atom of a fellow, whose whole wardrobe isn't worth eighteen shillings, haggling about an eighth per cent on a sum so large that even this eighth would be a fortune to you or me. Among the great men of the group represented in our Engraving perhaps the interesting-looking gentleman in a cap—first on the right of the

third row from the top—promises as well as any to become a great monetary influence; but for calculable probability of wealth, supposing his scruples should keep him within the operation of the criminal law, probably our heavy Israelitish friend, second from the bottom on the left, would be a safe man to count upon. The gentleman near the top, with a sagacious twist in his countenance, is a sham, or why is he among the jobbers in the Lower Bourse at his time of life? He and some of those about him, including, it is to be feared, the venerable gentleman with the bald head and the beard, will either retire with some small coup or be found in some mean purlieu of the Exchange ready to propound a certainly profitable scheme in exchange for a tavern dinner and the means wherewithal to write out a prospectus. There were, and perhaps still are, poor rogues or poor fools of this sort about our own Capel-court—men who carried stumps of quill-pens along with scraps of bread and cheese in their hats, and were to be found in a tap-room that was once under the old Auction Mart, but is now moved to spot which we will not divulge, lest our readers should go there, and by too much custom during the coming winter, deteriorate the quality of the mulled porter or lessen the now liberal shake of ground ginger which crowns the foaming draught. Certainly, even in the Upper and Middle Bourse (for so is the foreign 'Change divided), the representatives of the Money Market abroad are more fully flavoured with our own Duke's-place and Goodman's-fields than might be expected by people only conversant with the pleasant resort near Bartholomew-lane; but this only makes our speculations on character the more subtle in tracing the variety that is possible amidst likeness.

MR. W. E. FORSTER ON EDUCATION.

The new Mechanics' Institute at Bradford was opened on Monday. The building, which covers an area of 1600 square yards, is situated in the centre of the town, having frontages to Bowling-green, Tyrell-street, and Market-street. The external appearance of the building is of the Italian style of architecture. The land cost £12,500, and the building a further sum of £20,000. The new building was formally opened shortly after noon by Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P.

Mr. Forster, in the course of his speech, said that when he first came to Bradford the friends of mechanics' institutes all over the country were beginning to find out that it was impossible to carry out the objects they were intended to do, except in rare cases, because the mechanics had no elementary education upon which to ground scientific knowledge, and consequently the institutes had to be turned very much into elementary schools and night classes rather than for the teaching of science and the higher literature they had hoped to give. But now they would be able to secure the elementary education of children otherwise, and consequently these institutions would have that foundation which would enable them to fulfil the original object of their promoters. That put them in a perfectly different position. But now it was said that there would be no need for such institutes, as they would have both better elementary and better secondary schools. He was glad to see that in Bradford they had answered so strongly in favour of the increased need of these institutes. They wanted voluntary effort to watch the State, and take care men in his position and the Government generally, in all things relating to these matters—affecting, as they did, the social relations of the people—should do their duty, and not exceed their duty. They also wanted voluntary effort to throw light and zeal into local action, which could only be obtained by local effort, and for which they could not rely upon State direction. Then also all the efforts of the State, however great, required to be supplemented; and, in fact, it was necessary they should have all classes taking an interest in the matter to see that those efforts were made, and to see that everything that was done was made the best possible use of. There was no rest for them in fighting the enemy—ignorance; and if they would allow him he would point out two or three principal directions in which it seemed to him those of them who cared about the real education of the country, and wished to diminish the ignorance, could bestir themselves to advantage. He was not now talking so much about the passing of laws as the working out of laws. As they knew, they had passed a general measure which he trusted would give provision for elementary education throughout the country. They had also provided for secondary education through the old grammar-schools. He was glad its effect had reached Bradford, and he trusted their old grammar-school had been so re-framed and put into such a form for the future that it would prove a benefit to the town. They had also gone from the grammar-school to a higher education, and now the Universities of the country were national. The Legislature had attempted, at least, to meet the difficulties of the case. He thought he might make this demand—that a fair trial should be given to the Act, and that trial should be a practical and not a theoretical one, as to how the Act really worked. At the same time, he trusted he would not be unprepared to meet and consider most fairly any amendment which might be suggested; but what he wanted chiefly to arrest their attention for a very short time was the work they could do throughout the country now that they had got those laws passed. As they knew, the Commissioners of the Endowed Schools were studying every endowment throughout the country, and looking what improvement it wanted, and considering how that improvement could be effected. Well, they had got schemes put before them of which the local authorities approved, and they had been devised with all the ability they could bring to bear upon the matter. They had he was glad to find, before them the only man who in England was best qualified to inform them in this matter in the person of the Bishop of Exeter, who had so kindly consented to preside at the meeting; and he felt anything he had to say on that matter must come with much less weight than anything he (the Bishop) could say if he were inclined to address them on that subject. He thought the Bishop would probably agree with him that secondary education was to be somewhat changed; for hitherto it had not met the real wants of the country. The old grammar-schools were formed almost entirely upon the advantage that Latin and Greek well taught gave to the boys. They now found that they could not do with the small amount of knowledge that was given by Latin and Greek, but that they must have a knowledge of modern languages. He believed the time would come when no child would be turned out in the condition which, he was sorry to say, he was turned out from school, but that they would each have made a thorough mastery of the French and German languages. Then it was also necessary they should know something of the rudiments of science; and here again he thought of his own wants, and how, at any rate, he would have been much strengthened by such scientific education as many of the young men would now obtain. There was just one large advantage which he thought might be obtained by scientific knowledge—that was, that any man dealing with politics, or who had to address his fellow-men, and convince them, and rouse them, was at an enormous disadvantage compared with a man who understood the facts of science. Schools had two objects; one was to give knowledge and the other was to train the brain, increase the mental power—to make a man a better-thinking man, with better reasoning faculties, and to give him that care and attention in dealing with facts which a really careful grounding in knowledge enabled him to obtain. And there was no doubt that, so far as training was concerned, to present the whole system of the two dead languages was a great disadvantage for the teachers of science and modern languages, partly on account of the nature of the languages themselves, but still more so because the present teachers understood those two subjects of teaching very well, and did not so well understand the new ones; and then he inherited the organisation of centuries in enabling that kind of knowledge to be given with that kind of weight and care which made it good learning. However, that was a deficiency which would correct itself every day by the demand for scientific teaching, and for the teaching of modern languages. Not that they would ever get rid of Latin or Greek. These would always remain the ornaments of education, which polished scholars felt could not be—and Latin especially—dispensed with. But when men said that it was impossible to have this kind of education without a knowledge of Latin and Greek, his reply was, How did the old Romans and Greeks make their languages, which had been the glory of the world ever since they lived, when they had no dead languages by which their brains could be trained? Well, there was one point in regard to secondary education on which he would say one word. There was no doubt that, so far as elementary schools were concerned, one great difficulty with which they had to contend was the very short time which children went to school. But he thought the same difficulty extended in the opposite way, and applied to the highest education. It used to be the rule that a young man could take his degree at the University and enter on active life, or be working at a profession by the time he was of age—twenty-one. It was now very often nearer twenty-three before he could take his degree, and he wanted to ask those connected with the Universities to take this statement for what it would be worth when he said that he fully believed if they meant the Universities to keep their position—not merely as a school for the training of scholars, but as the highest schools which were sending out young men to fight the battle of life—they must be prepared to begin that battle when they began their manhood; that was, when they became twenty-one. A large proportion of people could not afford to keep their children longer than that age, and they would also find that whatever might be the advantages of a University education there was an advantage which the teaching of the work of life gave, and the young man who left the Universities at nearly twenty-three would not be so well fitted for business with even the mere learning

which the Universities could give him, as the young man who had gone into the business of life at twenty-one, or about that time, before his tastes had palled, and his having the practical teaching of the work of life and the lessons which failure in that work taught him. There was another question in which there was much work to do. The Endowed Schools Commissioners had held, he thought rightly, that where free education was to be given it should be given to boys and girls selected by merit, and not given by favour or patronage; but, as the general principle, they had met with much opposition. He felt very strongly on this question, because he believed that on the support which he trusted would be given by the country generally to the Government and Commissioners in carrying out those principles depended the success of their effort, which he had so deeply at heart, and it was this, that they should really open a career to the clever boys and youths of all classes throughout the country. The Bishop of Exeter, when they were talking the matter over in the Commission, gave them his experience—and no one had had a greater experience than the Bishop—that three in every thousand would be the maximum of those who by their natural faculty and by their taste—for both must be taken into account—were fitted for a higher education than that which they otherwise would have had; and were, in fact, born with the power to use the tools, if they gave them the knowledge as to how to use that power. He was surprised when he heard these numbers were so small; but he did not know that he was surprised now, when he saw the facts of social life, and saw them as they were illustrated around him. Because it was not only that the boys ought to have special faculties, but they ought to have a taste for learning, and the desire to make use of these faculties in the direction of scholastic teaching. There was many a clever boy with energy and power, who would rise in business and make a fortune, who was not the boy they would pick out to send from a grammar-school to a University by an exhibition, and who otherwise would not have been able to go there. But what they did demand was this—and he should not be satisfied until they had it—that the country should have the opportunity of obtaining the services of all those youths who had this special quality of gaining the advantage of a higher scholastic education than that to which they were born. But he said they never would get that from these free exhibitions. This free teaching being given to those children who were the humble friends of the managers of a school, they could only give it by some selections of merit. He had gone into the figures with regard to the educational position of Bradford, and he was glad to find that, although they had a deficiency in elementary education, which was not a deficiency equal to what was found in a great many towns, taking the present population, there were somewhere about 9000 boys in the elementary schools. Well, taking the Bishop of Exeter's estimate of the number who were specially fitted for the higher teaching, that would give twenty-seven boys to whom it would be an unkindness, as well as an unkindness to the State, not to give them the opportunity of exercising the talents God had given them. Consequently, he thought the grammar-schools should be so managed that twenty-seven boys in those exhibitions should always be present in them. That would imply that the public elementary schools in Bradford would compete for five exhibitions in every year. He thought that this was only a matter that required to be stated in Bradford to be speedily met. He could do a little himself, and he knew that many others would be glad to join him. He should be glad, if they could arrange the details in the management of the new grammar school, to become responsible for two boys in the elementary classes at the grammar school yearly. He would prefer, in order that the experiment should be fairly and fully tried, that one should be admitted to the junior branch of the school and the other to the senior branch, and that it should apply to the public elementary schools throughout the town. Some fault had been found with the code it had been his business to introduce lately that it seemed to rest entirely upon those three necessary rudiments of reading, writing, and ciphering; but his only reply to that was that he thought those who objected were not aware of the ignorance in the country with which he had to deal. He was hopeful that before very long, in the comparatively short time that the child of a labouring man was able to attend school, something more than the rudiments would be taught, and that the facts of geography, the facts of the history of our own country, and some of the facts of nature, the foundation of a scientific teaching, would be imparted to them. But they must not go on too fast in this matter; they must not attempt to teach those higher branches of education before the children had attained that knowledge of the mere elements of reading, writing, and arithmetic, without which it would be perfectly useless to attempt to teach them more. After referring to the special difficulties attending legislation on the subject of compulsory attendance at school, Mr. Forster said they were constantly hearing of a special claim for educational effort, and that claim was based upon the legislative measures which had been lately passed giving power to almost all classes of the community—giving power to every head of a family in towns. It was said how dangerous would be the use of that power unless those who had it were taught and educated. Well, there was much truth in that. He was one of those who never would listen to the cry which was frequently heard, not to give that power till they had given that teaching, and that for two reasons. First, he doubted very much whether they should get the teaching if they did not at once give the power; and, secondly, because that teaching at schools was, after all, not all the teaching in life. There was much teaching in the daily life of every Englishman which fitted him for the exercise of the rights of citizenship quite independent of the knowledge he obtained at school. He also felt that no greater or more powerful stimulus could be given to the cause of education than the fact that the power would be in the hands of the voters when the voters existed, and he was glad to find that it was so. They must not suppose, however, that education alone would be sufficient to remove all fear of that kind. Many men were looking with anxiety, with greater anxiety than he felt, upon the prospect of politics for the next few years. It was feared that in England they might follow the example of their neighbours on the Continent, that something like the convulsions which were so lamented there might happen in this country. He had not that fear. They had avoided these convulsions hitherto, and he believed they had that virtue among them which, spite of all their great faults, would, with God's blessing, enable them to avoid them in the future. No doubt, as was always the case when power came to a new class, some claims were started which were inconsistent with the truth, inconsistent with justice to either class, inconsistent with the interests of those who advocated them. But he had confidence in that common sense of the English people which would enable them to resist those claims where they should be resisted, and still more to take away reasonable forms of them by making provisions which ought to be made. Education gave strength to the individual, strength to resist others, and thereby removed a great cause of crime and misery, because it made it less easy to oppress and injure the individual who had the power of knowledge. It gave also to some extent better taste, and removed a man from gross temptation. But it did not give—it never would give in itself—power to resist temptation from within. Man did not obtain self-control, did not obtain power to exercise self-denial by school learning, or any kind of education, and therefore they should not suppose that all was done by good schools even when they got them. They were as well aware of that as he was. Although there was a difference as to the extent to which religion and education should be united, he believed that there was not an individual present who did not agree with him, that the principle upon which they must rest in their hope for the future of the country, and for these questions being solved without danger to the inhabitants of this country, was not education, but upon the belief that high principle and Christian feeling would continue to be characteristic of Englishmen. There was another aspect in which they might look upon institutes such

as this. They had great faults in England, and when he went abroad he found every day how he had to compare his country disadvantageously with many countries. But, without making comparisons, he thought that in England they had one advantage, and it was this—that it was a settled principle in almost every town, every locality, that they must look out to see how they could help their fellow-men. He felt there would be no class war in England while each class was trying to help another. There would be no real danger to property, nor that danger to society which an attack upon property began with, because, after all, there was an attempt to perform the duties of property. There was a feeling that there were duties incumbent upon property, and that its rights could only be preserved as rights if the duties which these rights enable them to exercise were performed.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1871.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THE incapacity of the English to amuse themselves is a very old topic, but the subject of which it forms a part is not likely soon to be exhausted. The theatrical season has again set in, and what are our prospects for the winter? Every cultivated person would be glad to see more of Shakespeare on the stage, and there are—or are supposed to be—some symptoms of a reaction in the public mind in favour of what is called legitimate drama. We confess our faith in the likelihood of any such change is not great. Nor does it look as if general popular culture would expedite it. The causes of what is called "the decay of the drama" lie too deep to be reached by ordinary education, and there is no ground to hope that twenty years hence, when school boards have done some of their work in England, Shakespeare will be any better liked by the multitude than he is now. We fear, we must say, with the spectacle of the United States before us, that the chances are the other way. But there are certain minor matters in which great improvements might be made, taking the public taste just as it is.

In the first place, theatres might be made more comfortable. The pit is almost everywhere susceptible of great improvement, and the means of ingress and egress should be made easy. These are trifles, but worth attending to.

The next matter which occurs to us is more serious. It is well known that railways have made an immense difference in the numbers of the population on which the London theatres now draw for their audiences. People can run up to town by the train and get home again the same night at a reasonable hour. One consequence of this is that managers now "run" a successful piece till it is, so to speak, boiled to rags; and, though there may be ten theatres all going at the same time, it may be impossible for the man who wants amusement in the evening to find a pleasant novelty at any one of them. The Adelphi has been running one particular piece for a hundred nights; so has the Olympic; so has the Haymarket; so has the Globe; and you get positively sick of seeing the same announcements week after week. Not only is this the case with the leading play, the joint of the evening's meal; it is the same with the *lever de rideau*, or the after-piece. Night after night the performances commence with "The Serious Family," or "Good for Nothing," or "Number One Round the Corner," or some other stock piece. Unless we err, during the whole run of "Joan of Arc" at the Queen's the *lever de rideau* has been "The Day After the Wedding." There may be, and often are, reasons of economy for this policy; but, however well theatres fill, they would fill better if the bill of fare were more varied. One of the pieces given in the course of the evening ought to be changed after about a fortnight's run, if it is merely a *lever de rideau*; and if something were taken, in cost, from the scenery of the leading play and bestowed upon, so to speak, the soup or fish of the evening, it would pay in the long run; for people would go to theatres who do not now go, there being nothing new to see.

The decay of the provincial drama proper is a subject that we will not meddle with; but it is surely a little surprising that, neither by joint-stock enterprise nor otherwise, are there any suburban theatres such as persons of taste could care to frequent. We believe that well-conducted small theatres actually in the suburbs would pay. Clapham and Islington are reputed "serious" places; but is it not probable that a small theatre, such as a gentleman could take his wife to, would succeed at Highbury, Upper Holloway, or placed between the Plough at Clapham and Angell Town, Brixton? There are a number of difficulties, commercial and other, but none that could not be overcome. The want of suburban concert-rooms, where you could regularly resort to hear good music, just as you can regularly go to the "Monday Pop," seems even more curious than the want of suburban theatres. We are a queer people, we English. If we would only take a leaf here and there out of the books of our French and German neighbours!

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice, is expected to leave Balmoral and return to Windsor Castle either at the close of this month or the beginning of November.

MR. CARDWELL is said to have given permission for the band of a regiment of Guards to attend the Boston musical festival next summer.

MR. GOSCHEN, accompanied by Admiral Sir S. C. Dacres, Captain Hall, and Mr. Shaw Lefevre, arrived at Devonport on Monday on an official visit to the Government establishments.

MR. BRIGHT, having returned from Scotland, has this week been on a tour in the Isle of Wight.

EARL DE LA WARR, SIR E. LUGARD, AND MR. J. C. O'DOWD are gazetted Commissioners for carrying into effect the provisions of the Army Regulation Act relating to the payment of money to officers in respect of their commissions.

ROBERT STUART, Esq., Q.C., Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature for the North-Western Provinces of the Presidency of Fort William, in Bengal, has had the honour of Knighthood conferred upon him by the Queen.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR has, with the concurrence of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, appointed Sir Alexander Armstrong, K.C.B., Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy, a member of the senate of the Army Medical School at the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley.

LORD KIMBERLEY, in presiding, on Tuesday, at the closing ceremonial of the Norwich Industrial Exhibition, took occasion to say a few words in defence of such displays, in the face of an oft-expressed desire to deprecate their utility.

MR. ALDERMAN GIBBONS, the Lord Mayor elect, has appointed as his Chaplain during his mayoralty the Rev. J. H. Coward, M.A., Rector of St. Benedict and St. Peter's, Paul's Wharf, and Minor Canon and Almoner of St. Paul's Cathedral.

THE REV. S. G. PHEAR, B.D., tutor, has been appointed Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, in succession to the late Dr. Archibald Gratiwicke.

ALL THE ARGYLLSHIRE HILLS were covered with snow last Saturday.

A SUBMARINE CABLE is being laid from Lowestoft to Germany by the German Union Telegraph Company.

MR. JOHN SCOTT, the well-known horse-trainer, died on Wednesday, aged seventy-seven.

AN EXPLOSION OF FIREDAMP took place at the Gadley Coal-pit, Aberdare, on Wednesday morning. Four men were killed and three were injured.

LORD BESSBOROUGH, in presiding at a Kilkenny farmers' club dinner, spoke of the general prosperity of Ireland as being most cheering. Mr. B. Osborne, M.P., in responding to a toast, held that the real home rule required by Ireland was the residence of the native proprietor.

THE CITY COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS have authorised the extension of asphalt paving, at a cost of more than £6000. It is probable that Queen Victoria-street will be opened for traffic by Nov. 9.

ONE OF THE ASSISTANT WARDERS at the Portsmouth Dockyard Extension Works has been violently attacked by a convict, and lies in a dangerous condition.

THE ADMIRALTY communicates the gratifying intelligence that the crew of the *Megara* are all saved, and that Captain Thruitt may be shortly expected in England. The telegram is from the captain himself, who dates it from Point de Gale.

THE WINTER SESSION FOR THE FACULTIES OF ARTS, Laws, and Science, at University College, was commenced, on Tuesday, with an inaugural lecture on "The Study of Latin in Past Centuries," by Professor Robinson Ellis.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE BALLOT SOCIETY draw attention to the importance of Town Councils supporting, by petitions to the House of Commons, the Government measure for adopting vote by ballot in municipal as well as Parliamentary elections.

SOME INDIAN CORN, which had been grown at Birkdale, near Southport, was exhibited in the Liverpool Exchange News Rooms on Tuesday, where it excited considerable attention. The plants were 16 ft. high and 5 in. in the stem, and the grains were as large and thoroughly ripened as if grown in the tropics.

THE DRIVER OF A HANSOM CAB, who had run over and injured a woman in the Fulham-road, was deprived of his license, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour, at the Middlesex Sessions, on Tuesday.

AMONG THE LOTS recently set up at the Hôtel Drouot was a set of oyster shells, being those of the only dozen of oysters that entered Paris during the siege. The oysters were sold for 12f. by the Prussians to a marauder, who sold them to one of the principal restaurateurs of the Boulevard de Montmartre for 100f., and the latter disposed of them at 20f. each. He obtained for the shells at the sale 32f. it is said, from an American purchaser.

ALFRED HAWKSWELL, late manager of the branch of the York Union Bank at Thirsk, who has been charged with embezzlement, and twice remanded on bail, was brought before the Thirsk Bench on Monday, charged with the lesser offence of larceny. Readmitted that in July, 1866, he had appropriated £13 from the account of Mr. Levers, Innkeeper, and was committed for trial at the Northallerton Sessions, bail being accepted.

THIRTY-EIGHT SOUTH LONDON TRADESMEN were summoned last week for having unjust weights and measures in their possession. The list comprised ten chandlers, six grocers, five publicans; cheesemongers and coal-dealers four each; ham-dealers and bakers two each; and one each of eating-house keepers, butchers, oilmen, and hair and glue merchants. In two cases there had been previous convictions, and the total amount of fines was £44 10s.

A FOREIGNER NAMED KAUFFMAN, described as an importer of foreign goods, was, last Saturday, fined £30 at the Lambeth Police Court, with the alternative of three months' imprisonment, for having worked an illicit still. He was further sentenced to be imprisoned for six weeks for a violent assault upon a revenue officer who discovered him at his illegal work.

TWO YOUTHS were charged, at the Guildhall Police Court, on Tuesday, with firing a novel piece of ordnance in the street. They had extorted a cannon out of a piece of gas-pipe, and the noise of the explosion so alarmed a woman who was passing that she fell and broke her thigh. She is now in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and until she is sufficiently recovered to appear the prisoners are remanded.

COLONEL TOMLINE'S QUARREL with the Chancellor of the Exchequer respecting the right of the subject to have silver bullion converted into coinage will not have been forgotten. Although worsted in the law courts, the hon. gentleman has offered a bar of silver worth £100 to the Newcastle strike committee if they can induce Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Lowe to have the bullion coined for them.

PROFESSOR DAVID H. MAHAN, of the United States Military Academy at West Point, known as one of the leading instructors there, drowned himself, on the 16th ult., by jumping from a steam-boat on the Hudson River. He was seventy years of age, and, as there were reports of his being placed on the retired list, the dread of this so wrought upon his mind that, in a fit of temporary insanity, he destroyed himself.

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS met on Wednesday at Leeds, when Sir John Pakington, as president, delivered the introductory address. He chose for his subject the condition of the working classes of this country, dwelling chiefly upon the recent measures for their education, and pointing out the necessity for an improvement in their homes and in the means of innocent recreation.

AN EXPLOSION OF PARAFFIN OIL, at Chelsea, on Wednesday, was the cause of injury to no less than sixteen persons, and in the case of some of them it is feared that fatal results will ensue. The explosion took place in a shop in Manor-street, King's-road, Chelsea, and the fronts of both house and shop were blown into the road. It was some time before the fire was extinguished.

MR. FARRAH, publisher, of the Strand, was again committed for trial, on Wednesday, on a charge of having libelled Edmund Walter Pock, by selling copies of a pamphlet entitled "The Etham Tragedy Reviewed." The defendant had been previously sent for trial on a similar charge, but the grand jury at the Central Criminal Court ignored the bill.

THE REVENUE RETURNS for the year as well as for the quarter ending Sept. 30 were issued last Saturday evening. During the three months the national receipts amounted to £15,014,200, a net increase of £811,787 upon the corresponding period of 1870. The income for the year has been £71,284,196, a decrease of £857,279 from the totals of the previous twelve months. The falling off has been under the headings of customs, taxes, and property tax.

THE COAL in the workings of a colliery at Darton, near Barnsley, has become ignited through the explosion of gas. A hole had been driven into the workings of the Woolsey Colliery, which burnt the Darton pit, and on a naked light, with which the pit is worked, being applied, the coal caught fire. By the advice of the Government Inspector and district mining engineers, stoppages have been built to cut off the air and extinguish the fire. The colliery is the property of Mr. Henry Lodge. Work has been entirely suspended.

THE LOUNGER.

MR. BRUCE is not a strong man—hardly strong enough for his place. But he has had to encounter enormous difficulties, and in that severe article which appeared in the *Times* of Tuesday I think the writer scarcely did justice to our Home Secretary. Mr. Bruce made one great mistake: his Licensing Bill was an unmitigated blunder. But, after looking carefully over the list of the bills of the Session, which now lies on my table, and calling to mind all I heard and saw last Session, I cannot discover that Mr. Bruce made any other grave mistake. True, he proposed a number of measures which he could not carry. But why could he not carry them? Because he could not get the time; and that he could not was not his fault. The *Times* represents Mr. Bruce as sitting pensive on a bench and wasting valuable time. It is clear to me that the writer of this article is not one of the *Times'* reporting staff. All who were obliged to be constantly in attendance at the House will laugh at this picture. No Minister ever struggled harder to get his measures forward than Mr. Bruce did last Session, but he was always baffled and beaten by want of time. The *Times* says that "if Mr. Bruce were determined to go on with measures of vital importance after one o'clock rather than not go on with them at all, he would find support in public opinion and in the House of Commons." "After one o'clock!"

Why, the House almost uniformly for weeks and weeks sat on till half-past two, three, and several times until nearly four o'clock; and what does this writer suppose the Ministers and the House were doing all that time if they were not pushing on the work? But it is not true that the House, as a rule, will allow very grave and important and opposed measures to be passed after one o'clock. Nor is it right that it should. The *Times* writer seems to think that a Minister, if he will but be resolute, can bear down all opposition. Here is another proof that the writer knows little or nothing of what goes on in the House after midnight. The truth is, that a small but determined minority can at that hour, by making successive motions of adjournment, baffle the most resolute Minister. Mr. Bruce is certainly not open to the charge of readily giving way to a factious minority. On the contrary, he has often been blamed for carrying on a hopeless struggle too long. Whose fault, then, to come to the point, was it that so few of the important bills brought in last Session passed? Well, in the first place, the Government proposed too many bills. Very early in the Session I discerned that, under the most favourable circumstances, not half the important Government bills could be carried. But this was not exclusively Mr. Bruce's fault. It was the fault of the Cabinet. I was told last Session that no list of departmental bills was, before the Session began, presented to the Cabinet, but that each department sent in its bills to be proposed to Parliament without the supervision or control of the Cabinet. Very strange this, if true; and I think it must be true, for if a lot of the bills had been placed before the Cabinet it would have been apparent that work had been prepared more than sufficient for two Sessions. This was a very serious mistake; more serious than outsiders will be likely to perceive. In the first place, hopes were raised which were sure to be disappointed; and, secondly, the bills which were doomed not to be passed occupied some time, and thereby impeded the progress of others. Indeed, I may say that if fewer measures had been proposed more might have been carried. I have heard that it was the custom in Sir Robert Peel's time for the Prime Minister himself to look over the list of the departmental bills before Parliament met, and to decide what bills should be brought forward and what postponed. If this custom has fallen into desuetude, surely it had better be revived. But, after all, the sin of wasting time and hindering the carrying of more important measures is chargeable upon the conspirators who deliberately and with malice aforethought wasted it to defeat the Army and Ballot Bills. The *Times* thinks that the Ballot Bill ought to have been postponed—postponed *sine die* it means, of course. But postponement, even for a Session, pledged to it as the Government was, was impossible. I have written thus at length on this subject because I, in common with Englishmen generally, do not like to see an honest, conscientious, hard-working, though it may be not a very strong man, unjustly run down.

Solomon has something in his Book of Proverbs about men meddling with things too high for them. Messrs. Potter, Odger, and their colleagues are certainly doing this. Mr. Potter, in the *Times* of Tuesday, gives us the programme of reforms which these gentlemen wish to achieve:—1st, Reform of the Monarchy; 2nd, reform of the House of Lords; 3rd, further Parliamentary reform; 4th, the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church; 5th, reform in the tenure of land; 6th, the removal of the insuperable difficulties in the way of the entrance of working men into Parliament. Well, now, let us suppose that Mr. Potter and forty like-minded men were in Parliament, how would they set about their reforms, especially the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th? With regard to the 6th, he will probably get the Ballot next year, and if by means of secret voting working men cannot be got into the House of Commons, what else can be done? I mean, what can legislation do? But to return to Mr. Potter and his forty. How, if they were in Parliament, would they go to work to reform the Monarchy and the House of Lords? I have not a doubt that the House of Lords will be reformed. Not much longer will the people tolerate that House as it is. At present the ordinary work is done by thirty or forty peers out of 496, which was the number in 1810, exclusive of fifteen minors. But when the House of Commons is to be flouted up rush some 250 more, who are too lazy or too fond of pleasure to attend except on these extraordinary occasions. Well, this must be reformed. It is unreasonable, it is becoming intolerable, that 200 hereditary sybarites should have the power thus to thwart the will of the people. But are Messrs. Potter and Co. the men to achieve this reform? I venture to assert that not a soul of them has the haziest notion how it is to be done. Have they ever considered that there is positively no constitutional method of doing this *ab extra* (from without)? At present nothing can be done constitutionally without the consent of the Lords. I have a notion that the Lords will do it themselves—gradually, tentatively, as all great constitutional reforms (happily for us, I think) are achieved in this country. Perhaps they will begin by consenting to the introduction of life peers. Then as to the disestablishment of the English Church. Simple phrase this; but what an enormous work it involves! This too, no doubt, will have to be done some day, but not yet. It could not be done now. The greatest Minister that ever lived, could we get such a man into power, could not do it. This old tree is still too fast rooted to be torn up without a violence imperilling the peace of the nation. But there are signs, I think, that Time, the greatest of all innovators—old *Educa Rerum*, as he was of old called, or Saturn, who devoured his own children—is silently at work at the roots. So let us wait patiently for the hour and the man—who with the hour, will be sure to appear. And now let me take the liberty to offer a suggestion to Messrs. Potter and Co. It is this:—"Cease to meddle with things too high for you." There is work for you to do in the world, as there is for us all; but believe me, if you attempt work so utterly *"abo your might"* as that which you have set forth in your programme, you will do nothing.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The visit of Mr. Sothern to America is to us a serious matter. We can ill afford to lose so popular and painstaking an actor, who has kept the Haymarket alive for many years. Apart from such successes as *Lord Dundreary* and *David Garrick*, Mr. Sothern has been the means of giving us many a good play; and in everything he has done he has shewn how thoroughly he understands the mechanical business of his art, without which the best acting goes for nothing. It is quite uncertain how long Mr. Sothern may remain in America. He may be back at the Haymarket again in May. Of course, if he makes a great success he

will possibly stay away longer. Unfortunately, Mr. Sothern has engaged to appear at one of the largest theatres in New York—namely, at Niblo's—and I almost fear lest the extent of the house should militate against the elaborate business, which must be closely watched if Lord Dundreary is to be appreciated. The history of Mr. Sothern connected with this character is rather curious. I dare say you are aware that the character of *Asa Trenchard*, or the American cousin, is the leading rôle in *Mr. Tom Taylor's* play; and when Mr. Sothern was one of the stock actors in the company of the theatre in America at which the play was produced, no less an actor than Mr. Jefferson was playing *Asa Trenchard*. Mr. Sothern was cast by Miss Laura Keene for *Lord Dundreary*, a foolish old man; and being bent on light comedy business, Mr. Sothern refused the part. He elected to play *Harry Vernon*, one of the worst walking gentleman's parts ever given to actor. But the young fellow who was originally cast for *Lieutenant Vernon*, and who wanted a chance in the play, appealed to Mr. Sothern not to rob him of his bread and butter. Out of pure good nature Mr. Sothern gave way, and took back *Lord Dundreary*. He first obtained permission from the manageress to do whatever he liked with the part; and having had for many years a glimmering idea of a character like the present *Dundreary*, for which he wished a play to be written, he annexed this idea to *Mr. Taylor's* play. By little and little the character grew and grew. Whole scenes and pages of business were written in by Mr. Sothern, and, possibly, no one will be more surprised than the Americans when they see the present *Dundreary*, remembering the crude notion of the character which was presented on the boards of Miss Laura Keene's theatre. Then, of course, there will be the disadvantage of playing to audiences which have seen Mr. Sothern's worst imitators; for there are some audiences so perverse that they will never believe in the sterling metal, having first fallen in love with the brummagem. However, it is to be hoped that here will be the exception, for after his hard and good work in London and the provinces no one would grudge Mr. Sothern a triumphant reception in the country where he worked so long.

It is impossible to say yet what the Royal National Opera will do towards founding a taste for English opera. The venture at the *St. James's* looks doubtful. It has not commenced brilliantly. Miss Rose Hersee is a bright and pretty singer, who does well, and will do better. But there is a decided want of "go" in the operas hitherto produced—operas which are themselves commonplace and hackneyed. It was a mistake to commence with "*The Rose of Castile*," and a still greater mistake to begin until the opera was ready for production. It would be nothing but ridiculous flattery to say that Saturday night's performance pleased anybody. The audience was determined to make the best of a bad job, and behaved most generously. But the clever singing and fascinating tricks of Miss Rose Hersee, added to the careful vocalisation of Miss Palmer, are not sufficient without any other support. Mr. George Perren is now anything but a romantic young tenor lover, and the directors and managers must understand this once for all, that acting must be obtained as well as singing. The young Spanish nobles in this opera were simply ludicrous. Though the acting manager writes to the papers to complain of any prophetic warnings about the future, I am bound to say there must be great improvement before success is attained.

On Saturday Mr. Montague—as popular an actor as there is on the stage—opens the *Globe* with Mr. H. J. Byron's new comedy, called "*Partners for Life*," which is said to be expressly written for the company; and on Monday next there is "*The Woman in White*" at the *Olympic*, postponed from last Monday (very wisely), in order to get some more rehearsals. Mr. Wilkie Collins, as is the fashion now, issues a manifesto, in which he says why and how he has done the work. After these things there would appear to be a lull.

TWO SUB-CONSTABLES of the Royal Irish Constabulary had a fight near Borris Leigh, Tipperary, on Monday, when one of them plunged his sword bayonet into the other's body. The injured man lies in a very dangerous condition.

A NEW COLLEGE AT DOVER, for the middle classes, was opened on Wednesday by Earl Granville, in his capacity of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. The college is erected on the site of the refectory of the old ruined priory of St. Martin's, and it is intended to give a first-rate education at a moderate charge. Lord Granville adverted at some length to these advantages, and to the benefits arising from education in general, in which he said Dover had hitherto been deficient.

DWELLINGS FOR THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.—Mr. Benjamin Colls, a member of the Court of Common Council, has given notice of his intention forthwith to adopt measures for carrying out the provisions of the Holborn Valley Improvement Acts 1864 and 1867, with respect to labourers' dwellings, as directed by clauses of the said Acts; and, further, that a petition will be presented to the Court of Chancery for permission to defray the cost of such buildings out of money now in that court belonging to the Corporation.

FATAL GUN EXPLOSION IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.—On Monday evening a fatal accident occurred to a joker named James Elliott, living at Barton-Terrace, Fishergate, near Preston. It appears that on the arrival of the 7.15 train from Longridge at Grimsargh, the jester got into one of the carriages, having in his possession a loaded double-barrelled gun. Just before the train reached the Preston station the report of a gun was heard, and some one exclaimed that a man was shot. When the train stopped at the station it was found that the poor fellow was dead, and his head literally blown away. The carriage in which the deceased sat was filled with people, and it is very remarkable how they escaped. The gun was at half-cock, and it is presumed that Elliott forgot the circumstances of its being so, and that he touched it unconsciously.

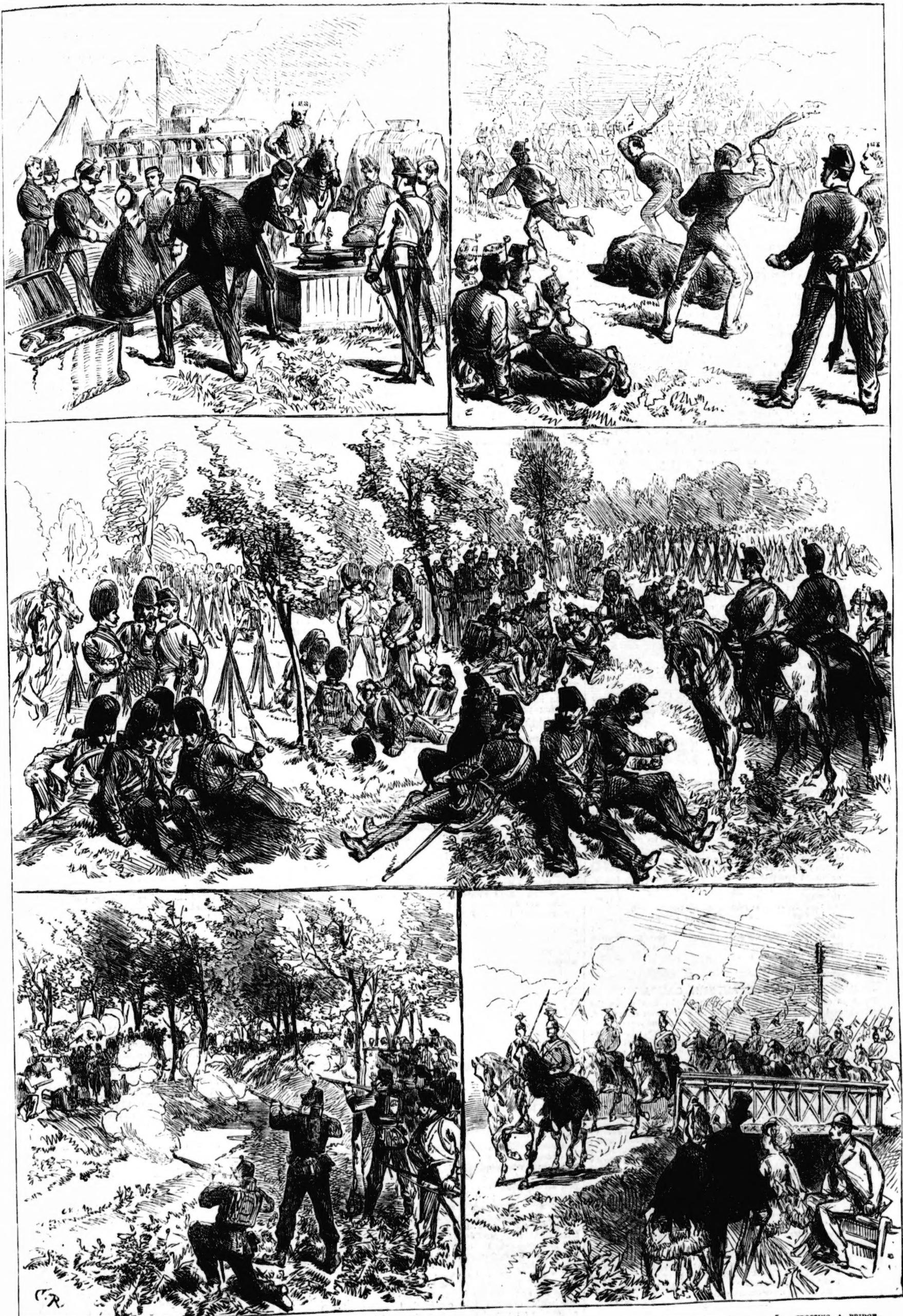
NEW PEER.—Sir Frederic Rogers, K.C.M.G., is about to be raised to the peerage. The hon. Baronet, who was born in 1811, was educated at Eton and at Oriel College, where he was first class in classics and in mathematics, and obtained other honours. He was called to the Bar, at Lincoln's Inn, in 1837, and after having filled the several offices of Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioner, and Assistant Commissioner for the sale of Encumbered Estates in the West Indies, he was, in 1850, appointed by Lord Palmerston to the post of Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. He discharged the duties of this office under the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Cardwell, Lord Carnarvon, the Duke of Buckingham, Lord Granville, and Lord Kimberley, until his resignation, a few months ago.

MR. THOMAS BRASSEY, M.P., ON CAPITAL AND LABOUR.—Mr. Brassey addressed a crowded meeting of the operatives and public of Birkenhead on Tuesday evening in the Workmen's Hall. Mr. Brassey said that English operatives need not fear competition, for they are progressing in arts and sciences much faster than foreigners, and the price of their labour is not rising so much comparatively as the cost of production in other countries. He would recommend Mr. Odger—of whom Mr. Brassey said he had a high opinion—to abandon political agitation, and devote himself to promote the interest of labour by placing himself in Geneva or other places abroad as a sentinel of British industry, and so keep British workmen well informed of the state of the labour markets abroad. Mr. Brassey recommended conciliatory counsels to both employers and employed; and said that by the masters and men working in harmony together both would be benefited, and England the to a higher plane of wealth and prosperity than she had ever yet attained.

VALUABLE SERVICES OF THE HERBERT INGRAM LIFE-BOAT. Skegness, Lincolnshire, Oct. 1.—Yesterday morning, during a very strong north-east gale, with a heavy sea (says William Everington,



THE HOT-SPRING ROOM AT WIESBADEN.



1. SERVING RATIONS.

2. SOLDIERS' PASTIMES: BAITING THE BEAR.

3. HALT OF STAVELEY'S ARMY.

4. A PICKET FIGHT.

5. CROSSING A BRIDGE.

SOME INCIDENTS OF THE AUTUMN CAMPAIGN.

AT WIESBADEN.

THE present season must have brought a great harvest to the various tradespeople and hotel-keepers at some of the German spas. With Paris only a matter of curiosity, a nine days' wonder to be stared at and lamented over, but not to sojourn in; and with the Rhine opened to travellers at the very time when people were all thinking that nobody would be able to go up and down from Cologne to Baden; and with Kings and Kaisers flitting about from one celebrated spring to another, mingling diplomacy with diet-drink, and being, as it were, on show in the resorts of dyspeptic Europeans and "noble sportsmen" who go to quaff and remain to play; the celebrated spas of Germany have been so thronged as to leave a doubt whether the springs themselves will not need replenishing. Homburg and Baden have been full; but perhaps the *crème de la crème* of society has been found at Wiesbaden, most charming of hunting-grounds for speculators in rank and fashion, and at the same time the place where fashion relaxes its rules and admits wonderful variety of costume, habits, and manners in the common pursuit of health and alkalinity. At any rate, the present season has been a lively and a cosmopolitan one, with such a rush at the hotels that to obtain accommodation without having secured rooms a month or so in advance has been the appalling problem for many a managing mamma and a perturbed chaperone. The Four Seasons, the Nassau, the Post and Adler, and the Rose have all been besieged three deep, each succeeding applicant watching the door daily to speed departing guests; while, as to private lodgings, there must have been beds on the roofs during the hot weather, or the few houses of the town could never have held the inhabitants.

Of course, the springs are the ostensible attraction, and it is wonderful with what perseverance the visitors imbibe the waters. Some of them even keep on drinking till they acquire a kind of taste for them. The Duke of Nassau should be a happy man to have medicine, as it were, always laid on, for Wiesbaden boasts of sixteen warm and two cold mineral springs, the latter mostly used for bathing; and the elements of the water are carbonate of lime, magnesia, natron chloate, muriate of lime and magnesia, sulphate of natron and sulphate of lime, aluminis, and some iron dissolved in carbonate of natron. So, avast rheumatism, gout, apoplexy, palsy, stiffness of the joints, and the ills that overfleek flesh is heir to after a long indulgence in undercooked ham, smoked fish, fresh boiled beef, sauerkraut, unblanched veal, ponderous sausage, diseased goose liver from Strasburg, and the immensities of German banquets, washed down with the white wines that look so innocent and are yet so potent, to say nothing of vast draughts of supplementary beer. It has somehow been a tradition in Europe that England was distinguished for solid eating and great appetites, perhaps for the reason that Englishmen talk rather heartily about food, as they do about other material comforts; but the charge of gluttony can never be sustained against our countrymen in comparison with our French and German neighbours. A Frenchman will eat twice as much as we give him credit for at his ordinary restaurant dinner, while at great banquets his knife and fork play such varied tunes as he pays his compliments to each dish in turn, that his next neighbour begins to wonder. As to a German, he is wonderfully constructed; for set him down to a feast and at first you will think he is a sober, plain eater, who devotes himself to one or two dishes. Not a bit of it! When you have begun to marvel how he can dispose of so much solid nutriment, you begin to find out that he has been busy in laying the substratum only, and that presently he will catch up to you, in a kind of light skirmishing with the entrées and fancy tit-bits.

An hour or two of contemplation in the promenade of the Kochbrunnen at Wiesbaden will give the Britisher a fair notion of the use of those saline springs in a country where gross eating needs some counteracting remedy once a year. The Kochbrunnen is the hottest of the springs, and is the great drinking establishment near the square where the statue of Hygieia stands to illustrate the glory of Wiesbaden. In front of the Kochbrunnen a covered promenade (represented in our Illustration) receives the visitors, who walk about and sip or swirl the renovating fluid out of the queer little mugs which are the regulation goblets at the springs. As to the other attractions of Wiesbaden, where should we find space to describe them? There is, of course, the Kursaal, to which virtuous visitors pay only a cursory attention, but which is, after all, the great feature of every one of these health resorts. Its splendid portico is the first object that strikes the traveller as he approaches the place. It is the great palace devoted to gaming; but then it is also devoted to dining and dancing, while its colonnades contain the chief shops, and its magnificent garden, as well as its arcades, with their plantations, are the principal promenades; so the Kursaal is Wiesbaden with the museum, the library, the theatre, the reading-room, and the barracks—we will not add the Church—as convenient adjuncts. But the virtuous and strong-minded visitor, whose simple tastes lead him to admire scenery and add exercise to physic, has plenty of charming resorts. There is the Dietenmühle, and thence on to Sonnenberg, which is the most frequented of the lovely environs of the town; and there is the Nerosberg, with its exquisite valley and the old oak forest that crowns its crest; there is the site of the old nunnery at Klarenthal, full of relics and wonderful treasures exhumed from the excavations; there are the Goats' Mount and Adam's Valley, where such needful refections may be had as the wayfarer little expects in a long ramble; and there is the grand view from the Platte, where the road diverges to Idstgin and Limburg. So, after all, there are pleasures independent of the tables and the hot rooms at the gaming-house; and a morning virtuously devoted to sipping the invigorating draught from the Kochbrunnen may be succeeded by an afternoon amidst the beauties of nature and an evening of innocent repose.

INCIDENTS IN THE AUTUMN CAMPAIGN.

DETAILS of the late military manoeuvres and reflections on the incidents and teachings thereof are now pretty well exhausted. We need not dwell upon the scenes depicted in our Engravings, which deal with small side events, as it were, which, though interesting enough in themselves, neither affected general results nor call for lengthened description. We may, however, mention one occurrence which had a slightly ludicrous aspect, and is not illustrated by our Artist. During the heat of the battle in the neighbourhood of Aldershot, on the 21st ult., the smallpox hospital, recently erected by the Farnham Board of Guardians, was besieged by a number of troops who were ignorant of the character of the building. The place was closely surrounded by the Tower Hamlets Militia, whose military ardour led them to seek the advantage of its elevated situation for the purpose of firing from the windows upon the advancing party, a memorable precedent for which was afforded by the Prussians at a farmhouse in the vicinity of Sedan. In vain the two nurses remonstrated against the expressed determination of the besiegers; the order had been given, and the first duty of a soldier was to obey. The doors were closed, and persuasion was about to be succeeded by force, when one of the nurses happened to remark incidentally, and for the first time, that the object of attack was "a smallpox hospital." The expression produced a magical effect. The order to secure possession of such an advantageous position, if not countermanded, was soon forgotten, and the invaders beat a hasty retreat towards the foot of the hill on which the hospital stands. Fortunately, no patient was at the time in the building. The hospital, which closely resembles a couple of soldiers' huts, is constructed of wood, and was built in May last, since which time upwards of forty patients have been successfully treated for smallpox, while six deaths have occurred there.

MR. DARWIN is engaged on a work in which the facial expression of animals will be one of the chief topics discussed.

IRREGULAR CLERICAL MINISTRATIONS.

A GREAT stir has been made throughout the Church of England because two of its chief pastors, finding themselves beyond its jurisdiction, have preached and prayed to their fellow-Christians in the manner to which the latter were accustomed. Without a highly-artificial training it would be difficult to sympathise with, or even understand, the trouble which the ministrations of the Bishop of Winchester and the Archbishop of York, in the Church of Glengarry, have caused to many good Churchmen. That the pulpits of every church should be guarded against unauthorised intruders we all expect, and, until now, it has generally been when they have appeared to be usurped that any outcry has been made. A few years ago Bishop Colenso was announced to preach one Sunday afternoon in a parish church in Leicestershire, but an inhibition having been served upon him in the course of the morning service, he preached on the village green. A year ago a well-known Nonconformist minister preached in a church in the diocese of Ripon, by invitation of the Incumbent, and the latter was afterwards duly admonished by his diocesan. The nearest approach to a union of episcopal and non-episcopal ministrations was made during the Rev. Thomas Binney's visit to Australia, about ten years ago, when the Right Rev. Dr. Parry, Bishop of Melbourne, conducted the worship, and Mr. Binney preached the sermon; but that was on board a ship.

Of those who have been guilty of irregularly preaching in a Church of England pulpit since the passing of the Act of Uniformity, perhaps the most eminent among Nonconformists is Andrew Fuller. In the year 1796, a Mr. Broughton, of Braybrooke Lodge, Northamptonshire, had a son who on his deathbed requested that Fuller might preach his funeral sermon. As it was known that in such an event a crowd much larger than any of the chapels could accommodate would press to the service, Fuller casually remarked that he did not know what was to be done, unless the clergymen would lend them the parish church, not for a moment imagining that the remark would have serious consequences. The young man's father went straight to the clergyman, a pleasant, neighbourly man, with no very definite Church views, who said he had no objection if the thing could be done with safety, which he doubted. The next day, this obliging old gentleman, to satisfy himself, rode over to Market Harborough to consult an attorney on the subject, and received from him the unsound advice that no ill consequences to him would follow Fuller's preaching in Braybrooke Church; and that, if anyone was troubled on that account, it would be the preacher. On the appointed day the clergyman performed the funeral service, and then Fuller went up to him in the churchyard, and told him that he accepted his offer. About 600 persons were in the church, and at the end of the sermon the minister shook hands with Fuller, and thanked him before all the people for his pathetic discourse. "I like charity," said he; "Christians should be charitable to one another." The Bishop sent for the old gentleman, asked him a great many questions—amongst others, whether Fuller had prayed for the King—and then dismissed him with an admonition not to repeat the offence.

Far more daring was the assumption of quasi-clerical duties by another eminent teacher of mankind—Voltaire. This was in the year 1768, when the author of the "Philosophical Dictionary" thought fit to make his "Easter Communion." Grimm, who has preserved an account of the affair in his "Correspondence," says, "He communicated on Easter Sunday with all the zeal of a neophyte and all the pomp of the squire of the parish. He procured six large wax candles from Lyons, and had these carried before him with a missal, being himself escorted to the church at Ferney by two gardes-chasse, carrying muskets with fixed bayonets. He received the communion at the hands of the curé, and then, to the astonishment and dismay of the poor priest, turned round to the persons present and delivered an edifying and not unchristian discourse." This extraordinary proceeding gave rise to a correspondence with the Bishop of Annecy, who declared that this *communion de politique* was enough to scandalise even the Protestants.—*Daily News.*

THE EDITORS AND EARLY WRITERS OF "PUNCH."

THE idea of converting *Punch* from a strolling to a literary laughing philosopher belongs to Mr. Henry Mayhew, former editor (with his schoolfellow Mr. Gilbert à Beckett) of *Figaro in London*. The first three numbers, issued in July and August, 1841, were composed almost entirely by that gentleman, Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Henry Plunkett ("Fusbos"), Mr. Stirling Coyne, and the writer of these lines. Messrs. Mayhew and Lemon put the numbers together, but did not formally dub themselves editors until, as C. T. B. rightly conjectures, the appearance of their *Shilling's Worth of Nonsense*. The cartoons, then "Punch's Pencillings," and the smaller cuts were drawn by Mr. A. S. Henning, Mr. Newman, and Mr. Alfred Forrester ("Crownhill"); later by Mr. Hablot Browne and Mr. Kenny Meadows. The designs were engraved by Mr. Ebenezer Landells, who occupied also the important position of "capitalist." Mr. Gilbert à Beckett's first contribution to *Punch*, "The Above-Bridge Navy," appeared in No. 4, with Mr. John Leech's earliest cartoon, "Foreign Affairs." It was not till Mr. Leech's strong objection to treat political subjects was overcome that, long after, he began to illustrate *Punch's* pages regularly. This he did, with the brilliant results that made his name famous, down to his untimely death. The letterpress description of "Foreign Affairs" was written by Mr. Percival Leigh, who, also after an interval, steadily contributed. Mr. Douglas Jerrold began to wield *Punch's* baton in No. 9. His "Peel Regularly Called in" was the first of those withering political satires, signed with a "Q" in the corner of each page opposite to the cartoon, that conferred on *Punch* a wholesome influence in politics. Mr. Albert Smith made his début in this wise:—At the birth of *Punch* had just died a periodical called (I think) *The Cosmorama*. When moribund Mr. Henry Mayhew was, like Peel, regularly, although unsuccessfully, called in to resuscitate it. This periodical bequeathed a comic census-paper filled up, in the character of a showman, so clever that the author was eagerly sought at the starting of *Punch*. He proved to be a medical student hailing from Chertsey, and signing the initials A. S.—"only," remarked Jerrold, "two-thirds of the truth, perhaps." This pleasant supposition was not verified, but reversed at the very first introduction. On that occasion Mr. Albert Smith left the "copy" of the opening of "The Physiology of the London Medical Student," printed in vol. i, p. 142.

The writers already named, with a few volunteers selected from the editor's box, filled the first volume, and belonged to the ante- "B. and E." era of *Punch's* history. The proprietor had hitherto consisted of Messrs. Henry Mayhew, Lemon, Coyne, and Landells. The printer and publisher also held shares, and were treasurers. Although the popularity of *Punch* exceeded all expectation, this first volume ended in difficulties. From these, storm-tossed *Punch* was rescued and brought into smooth water by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, who acquired the copyright and organised the staff. Then it was that Mr. Mark Lemon was appointed sole editor, a new office having been created for Mr. Henry Mayhew—that of suggestor-in-chief; Mr. Mayhew's contributions, and his felicity in inventing pictorial and in "putting" verbal witticisms, having already set a deep mark upon *Punch's* success.

The second volume started merrily. Mr. John Oxenford contributed his first jeu-d'esprit in its final number, on "Herr Döbler and the Candle-Counter." Mr. Thackeray commenced his connection, in the beginning of the third volume, with "Miss Tickley's Lectures on English History," illustrated by himself. A few weeks later a handsome young student returned from Germany. He was heartily welcomed by his brother, Mr. Henry Mayhew, and then by the rest of the fraternity. Mr. Horace Mayhew's diploma joke consisted, I believe, of "Questions addressées au Grand Concours aux Élèves d'Anglais du Collège St. Badand, dans le Département de la Haute Cockaigne" (vol. iii, p. 89). He has never ceased to supply *Mr. Punch* with

jokes, I fancy, to this day, having grown grey in his merry service. Mr. Richard Doyle, Mr. Tenniel, Mr. Shirley Brooks, Mr. Tom Taylor, and the younger celebrities who now keep *Mr. Punch* in vigorous and jovial vitality, joined his establishment after some of the birthmates had been drafted off to graver literary and other tasks—amongst them your old but sparse correspondent, W. H. W. (*Notes and Queries*).

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AT VIENNA IN 1873.

THE Emperor of Austria has sanctioned the project of holding an International Exhibition at Vienna in 1873, and appointed an Imperial Commission to carry out this project.

The Exhibition is intended to be opened on May 1, 1873. The entire arrangements have been intrusted to the Austrian Consul-General at Paris, Privy-Councillor Baron de Schwarz-Senborn, who has been appointed Director-General of the Exhibition, and who has the advantage of great experience combined with superior abilities. Local committees are about to be formed in all the provinces of Austria and Hungary, and a special Royal Commission will be appointed at Pesth. One great feature of the Exhibition will be an arrangement for the classification of the productions of all countries in groups, corresponding with their geographical position, and great pains will be taken to render the Oriental department in every way worthy of the almost inexhaustible resources of the Indian Empire.

A decidedly new feature of the Exhibition will be an arrangement by which the treasured collections of the various museums of London, Paris, Berlin, Moscow, Lyons, Munich, Stuttgart, Nuremberg, Weimar, &c., will appear in simultaneous position; and it is further intended to represent a history of inventions, a history of industry, a history of natural productions, and a history of prices; so that the world's progress of arts, science, industry, and natural products will thus be brought into contrast. The Emperor has granted the use of the "Prater" for the site of the Exhibition. The principal building will be nearly 950 metres in length.

The objects to be exhibited will be classified into twenty-six different groups, namely:—

Group I, mining and metallurgy; 2, agriculture and forestry; 3, chemical industry; 4, articles of food as industrial products; 5, textile industry and clothing; 6, leather and indiarubber industry; 7, metal industry; 8, wood industry; 9, stone, earthenware, and glass industry; 10, hardware industry; 11, paper industry; 12, graphical arts and industrial drawing; 13, machinery and means of transport; 14, scientific instruments; 15, musical instruments; 16, military accoutrements.

This group will embrace all subjects and contrivances for the equipment of an army, and the attendance on the sick and wounded.

Group 17. Maritime Objects.

This group will consist of objects applicable to sea and river navigation, shipbuilding, the fitting out of ships, the construction of harbours and coast lights; also safety appliances, &c.

Group 18. Architectural and Engineering Objects.

In this group will be represented executed or projected works for the construction of roads and railways, aqueducts, drainage works, works for the regulation of streams, canals, the construction of dwelling-houses and public buildings (as Houses of Parliament, theatres, hospitals, prisons, bathing establishments, public washhouses, &c.), and also contrivances for ventilation, firing, &c.

19th. Cottage houses, their interior arrangements and decorations.

20th. Peasants' houses, with interior arrangements, furniture, utensils, &c.

In these two groups it is intended to exhibit, by completely furnished dwelling-rooms, the manner in which the various peoples regard the object of habitation.

21st. National domestic industry.

This department is designed to illustrate the abundance of valuable sources, of which the productions of national domestic industry, such as objects of ornament, fineries, vessels, textures, &c., are the results.

22nd. Representation of the operation of museums of art and industry.

The object of this department is to bring into view the means by the aid of which museums of art and industry of our time endeavour to influence the improvement of artistic taste and artistic culture in general.

23rd. Ecclesiastical art.

This group will comprise all that is produced by art and industry for religious purposes.

24th. Objects of art and industry of former times exhibited by amateurs and collectors or belonging to Expositions des Amateurs.

An attempt will be made, by arranging this group, to bring together the treasures of private collections of works of art, which are usually accessible only to a limited few; thus giving to students and others engaged in artistic and industrial pursuits an opportunity to enrich the domain of artistic industry by new ideas.

25th. Plastic art of the present time.

In this group only such objects of art will be admitted as have been produced since the first great International Exhibition in London in 1851.

26th. Objects of Education, Training, and Mental Cultivation.

This group will contain:—(a) A representation of all such objects as are used for the support and rearing of the child in its infancy, its physical and psychical development from the first days of its life to the time of its being placed in school. (b) Educational and scholastic from the elementary schools upwards to technical colleges and universities. (c) The entire system of instruction and culture, so far as it can be brought into view by the productions of literature, the public press, societies, libraries, and statistical records.

It is also in contemplation to combine with the Exhibition courses of lectures in connection with the objects exhibited, and to arrange international congresses of learned men, artists, gentlemen of the scholastic and medical professions, of representatives of museums, of art and industry, of teachers of drawing, engineers and architects, of representatives of chambers of commerce, of banking and insurance companies, of agricultural and forestry societies, as well as of mining and metallurgical companies, to discuss questions of international import.

Chevalier de Shaeffer, Director of the Austro-Hungarian Consulate-General in London, who gained great experience at the Paris and London Exhibitions, has been commissioned to conduct the preliminary arrangements respecting the contributions to be sent to the Exhibition from Great Britain.

NEW WORKS will shortly be commenced in the Bay of Passages (near Irún), in order to provide the north coast of Spain with a harbour suited to its commercial resources.

A BIG JOB IN ENGINEERING.—The *Boston (U.S.) Transcript* says that the commissioners upon the reduction of Bunker-hill have made their report to the city government of Charlestown. The total cost of the undertaking is estimated at 3,271,771 dollars. From this should be deducted the value of Mill Pond lands and Mystic River flats to be filled in, 1,726,178 dollars, which will leave the net cost 1,545,644 dollars. The street opposite St. Francis de Sales Church is to be lowered forty-six feet, and other points in decreasing proportion. The lowering of the Catholic church, and the removal of the adjoining cemetery, which contains nearly 8000 corpses, are among the most formidable obstacles of the enterprise. The district proposed to be reduced contains about forty-five acres. The area of the Mill Pond lands to be filled is 1,549,600 square feet; the flats adjoining, 1,992,521 square feet. A marginal street, 3500 ft. in length and 60 ft. in width, with fifteen lateral streets, each 540 ft. in length, are to be laid out on the new territory. The area of flats in Mystic River to be filled in is 2,851,187 square feet. The number of buildings in the district which will require to be lowered is 473. The contemplated improvement will add about 150 acres to the territorial limits of Charlestown. Bunker-hill has already been lowered 14 ft., and should this plan be consummated it will have been lowered 60 ft. from its original height at the summit. The commissioners recommend that the project be submitted to a vote of the citizens.

THE END OF POOR OLD MANON DAX.

From "Folle-Farine," by Ouida.

A hot, dry, parched, sickly summer had been followed by a most severe winter. The frosts were intense; snow fell suddenly and heavily, and lay deep and long; cattle perished in the fields, sheep were smothered in their folds, and the poorer peasantry of Normandy suffered terribly.

There was among the sufferers one old and poor, who lived not far from the mill of Ypres, by name Manon Dax.

She was little, old, hardy, brown woman, shrivelled and bent, yet strong, with bright eyes like a robin's, and a tough frame, eighty years old.

She had been southern born, and the wife of a stonemason. He had been dead fifty years, and she had seen all her sons and daughters and their offspring die too, and had now left on her hand to rear four young great-grandchildren, almost infants, who were always crying to her for food, as newborn birds cry in their nests.

She washed a little, when she could get any linen to wash, and she spun, and she picked up the acorns and the nuts, and she tilled a small plot of ground that belonged to her hut, and she grew cabbages and potatoes and herbs on it, and so kept a roof over her head, and fed her four nestlings, and trotted to and fro in her wooden shoes all day long, and worked in hail and rain, in drought and tempest, and never complained, but said that God was good to her.

She was anxious about the children, knowing she could not live long—that was all. But then she felt sure that the Mother of God would take care of them, and so was cheerful; and did what the day brought her to do, and was content.

Now on Manon Dax, as on thousands of others, the unusual severity of the winter fell like a knife.

She was only one amongst thousands. Nobody noticed her; still, it was hard.

All the springs near her dwelling were frozen for many weeks; there was no well nearer than half a league; and half a league out and half a league back every day over ground sharp and slippery with ice, with two heavy pails to carry, is not a little when one is over eighty, and has only a wisp of woollen serge between the wind and one's withered limbs.

The acorns and horse-chestnuts had all been disputed with her fairly by boys rough and swift, who foresaw a time coming in which their pigs would be ill-fed. The roots in her little garden-plot were all black and killed by the cold. The nettles had been all gathered and stewed and eaten.

The snow drove in through a big hole in her roof. The woods were ransacked for every Bramble and broken bough by reivers younger and more agile than herself. She had nothing to eat, nothing to burn.

The children lay in their little beds of hay and cried all day long for food, and she had none to give them.

"If it were only myself!" she thought, stopping her ears not to hear them. If it had been only herself it would have been so easy to creep away into the corner among the dry grass, and to lie still till the cold froze the pains of hunger and made them quiet; and to feel numb and tired, and yet glad that it was all over, and to murmur that God was good, and so to let death come—content.

But it was not only herself.

The poor are seldom so fortunate—they themselves would say so unhappy—as to be alone in their homes.

There were the four small lives left to her by the poor dead foolish things she had loved—small lives that had been rosy even on so much hunger, and blithe even amidst so much cold; that had been mirthful even at the flooding of the snowdrifts, and happy even over a meal of mouldy crusts, or of hips and haws from the hedges. Had been—until now, when even so much as this could not be got, and when their beds of hay were soaked through with snow-water; now—when they were quite silent, except when they sobbed out a cry for bread.

"I am eighty two years old, and I have never since I was born asked man or woman for help, or owed man or woman a copper cent," she thought, sitting by her black hearth, across which the howling wind drove, and stopping her ears to shut out the children's cries.

She had often known severe winters, scanty food, bitter living; she had scores of times in her long years been as famished as this, and as cold, and her house had been as desolate.

Yet she had borne it all and never asked for an alms, being strong and ignorant, and being also in fear of the world, and holding a debt a great shame.

But now she knew that she must do it, or let those children perish; being herself old and past work, and having seen all her sons die out in their strength before her.

The struggle was long and hard with her.

She would have to die soon, she knew, and she had striven all her lifetime so to live that she might die saying, "I have asked nothing of any man."

Thus perhaps, she thought sadly, had been only a pride after all; a feeling foolish and wicked, that the good God sought now to chasten.

Any way she knew that she must yield it up and go and ask for something, or else those four small things, that were like a cluster of red berries on a leafless tree, must suffer and must perish.

"It is bitter, but I must do it," she thought. "Sure it is strange that the good God cares to take any of us to himself through so sharp a way as hunger. It seems as if I saw His face now, I should say, 'Not heaven for me, Monseigneur; only bread and a little wood.'"

And she rose up on her bent, stiff limbs, and went to the pile of hay on which the children were lying, pale and thin, but trying to smile, all of them, because they saw the tears on her cheeks.

"Be still, my treasures," she said to them, striving to speak cheerily, and laying her hands on the curls of the eldest born. "I go away for a little while to try and get you food. Be good, Bernardou, and take care of them till I come back."

Bernardou promised, being four years old himself; and she crept out of the little black door of the hut into the white road and the rushing winds.

"I will go to Flamma," she said to herself.

It was three in the afternoon, nearly dark at the season of mid-winter. The business of the day was done.

The people had come and gone, favoured or denied, according to such surerites as they could offer.

The great wheel worked on in the seething water; the master of the mill sat against the casement, to catch the falling light, adding up the sums in his ledger—crooked little signs such as he had taught himself to understand, though he could form neither numerals nor letters with his pen.

All around him in the storerooms there were corn, wood, wool, stores of every sort of food. All around him, in the room he lived in, there were hung the salt meats, the sweet herbs, and the dried fruits that he had saved from the profusion of other and healthier years. It pleased him to know that he held all that, and also withheld it.

It moved him with a certain saturnine glee to see the hungry, wistful eyes of the peasants stare longingly at all those riches, whilst their white lips faltered out an entreaty—which he denied. It was what he liked; to sit there and count his gains after his fashion, and look at his stores and listen to the howling wind and driving hail, and chuckle to think how lean and cold and sick they were outside—those fools who had mocked him because his saint had been a gipsy's leman.

To be prayed to for bread, and give the stone of a bitter denial; to be implored with tears of supplication, and to answer with a grim jest; to see a woman come with children dying for food, and to point out to her the big brass pans full of milk, and say to her, "All that makes butter for Paris," and then to see her go away wailing and moaning that her child would die, and tottering feebly through the snow—all this was sweet to him.

Before his daughter had gone from him he had been, though a hard man, yet honest, and had been, though severe, not cruel; but since he had been aware of the shame of the creature whom he had believed in as an angel, every fibre in him had been embittered and salted sharp with the poignancy of an acrid hate towards all living things. To hurt and to wound, and to see what he thus struck bleed and suffer, was the only pleasure life had left for him. He had all his manhood walked justly, according to his light, and trusted in the God to whom he prayed; and his God and his trust had denied and betrayed him, and his heart had turned to gall.

The old woman toiled slowly through the roads which lay between her hut and the water-mill.

They were roads which passed through meadows and along corn-fields, beside streamlets, and amongst little belts of woodland, lanes and paths green and pleasant in the summer, but now a slough of frozen mud, and whistled through by north-east winds. She held on her way steadily, stumbling often, and often slipping and going slowly, for she was very feeble from long lack of food, and the intensity of the cold drove through and through her frame.

Still she held on bravely, in the teeth of the rough winds and of the coming darkness, though the weather was so wild that the poplar-trees were bent to the earth, and the little light in the Calvary lamp by the river blew to and fro, and at last died out. Still she held on, a little dark tottering figure, with a prayer on her lips and a hope in her heart.

The snow was falling, the clouds were driving, the waters were roaring in the twilight; she was only a little black speck in the vast grey waste of the earth and the sky, and the furious air tossed her at times to and fro like a withered leaf. But she would not let it beat her; she groped her way with infinite difficulty, grasping a bough for strength or waiting under a tree for breath a moment, and thus at last reached the mill-house.

Such light as there was left showed her the kitchen within, the stores of wood, the strings of food; it looked to her as it had looked to Phratos—a place of comfort and of plenty: a strong safe shelter from the inclement night.

She lifted the latch and crept in, and went straight to Claudio Flamma, who was still busy beneath the window with those rude signs which represented to him his earthly wealth.

She stood before him white from the falling snow, with her brown face working with a strong emotion, her eyes clear and honest, and full of an intense anxiety of appeal.

"Flamma," she said simply to him, "we have been neighbours fifty years and more—then and I; and many have borrowed of thee to their hurt and shame, but I never. I am eighty-two, and I never in my days asked anything of man or woman or child. But I come to-night to ask bread of you—bread for the four little children at home. I have heard them cry three days, and have had nothing to give them save a berry or two off the trees. I cannot bear it any more. So I have come to you."

He shut his ledger, and looked at her. They had been neighbours, as she had said, half a century and more; and had often knelt down before the same altar, side by side.

"What dost want?" he asked simply.

"Food," she made answer; "food and fuel. They are so cold—the little ones."

"What canst pay for them?" he asked.

"Nothing—nothing now. There is not a thing in the house except the last hay the children sleep on. But if thou wilt let me have a little—just a little—while the weather is so hard, I will find means to pay when the weather breaks. There is my garden; and I can wash and spin. I will pay faithfully. Thou knowest I never owed a brass coin to any man. But I am so old, and the children are so young."

Claudio Flamma got up and walked to the other side of the kitchen. Her eyes followed him with wistful, hungry longing.

Where he went there stood pans of new milk, baskets of eggs, rolls of bread, piles of faggots. Her feeble heart beat thickly with eager hope, her dim eyes glowed with pleasure and with thankfulness.

He came back and brought to her a few sharp rods, plucked from a thorn tree.

"Give these to thy children's children," he said, with a dark smile. "For these—and for no more—will they recompense thee when they shall grow to maturity."

She looked at him startled and disquieted, yet thinking that he meant but a stern jest.

"Good Flamma, you mock me," she murmured, trembling; "the babes are little, and good. Ah, give me food, quickly, for God's sake! A jest is well in season, but to an empty body and a bitter heart it is like a strip."

He smiled, and answered her in his harsh grating voice,

"I give thee the only thing given without payment in this world—advice. Take it or leave it."

She reeled a little, as if he had struck her a blow with his fist, and her face changed terribly, whilst her eyes stared without light or sense in them.

"You jest, Flamma! You only jest!" she murmured. "The little children starve, I tell you. You will give me bread for them? Just a little bread? I will pay as soon as the weather breaks."

"I can give nothing. I am poor, very poor," he answered her, with the habitual lie of the miser; and he opened his ledger again, and went on counting up the dots and crosses by which he kept his books.

His servant Pitchou sat spinning by the hearth: she did not cease her work nor intercede by a word.

The poor can be better to the poor than any prince; but the poor can also be more cruel to the poor than any slavedrivers.

The old woman's head dropped on her breast; she turned feebly, and felt her way, as though she were blind, out of the house and into the air.

It was already dark with the darkness of descending night.

The snow was falling fast. Her hope was gone: all was cold—cold as death.

She shivered and gasped, and strove to totter on: the children were alone. The winds blew and drove the snowflakes in a white cloud against her face; the bending trees cracked and groaned as though in pain; the roar of the mill water filled the air.

There was now no light: the day was gone, and the moon was hidden; beneath her feet the frozen earth cracked, and slipped, and gave way.

She fell down; being so old and so weakly, she could not rise again, but lay still, with one limb broken under her, and the winds and the storm beating together upon her.

"The children! the children!" she moaned feebly, and then was still: she was so cold, and the snow fell so fast; she could not lift herself nor see what was around her; she thought that she was in her bed at home, and felt as though she would soon sleep.

Through the dense gloom around her there came a swiftly moving shape, that flew as silently and as quickly as a night bird, and paused as though on wings beside her.

A voice that was at once timid and fierce, tender and savage, spoke to her through the clouds of driven snow spray.

"Hush, it is I! I—Folle-Farine. I have brought you my food. It is not much—they never give me much. Still it will help a little. I heard what you said—I was in the loft. Flamma must not know; he might make you pay. But it is all mine, truly mine, take it."

"Food—for the children!"

The blessed word aroused her from her lethargy; she raised herself little on one arm and tried to see whence the voice came that spoke to her. But the effort exhausted her; she fell again to the ground with a groan—her limb was broken.

Folle-Farine stood above her, her dark eyes gleaming like a hawk's through the gloom, and full of a curious, startled pity.

"You cannot get up; you are old," she said, abruptly. "See, let me carry you home. The children! yes, the children can have it. It is not much; but it will serve."

She spoke hastily and roughly; she was ashamed of her own compassion. What was it to her whether any of these people lived or died? They had always mocked and hated her.

"If I did right, I should let them rot, and spit on their corpses," she thought, with the ferocity of vengeance that ran in her Oriental blood.

Yet she had come out in the storm, and had brought away her food for strangers, though she had been at work all day long, and was chilled to the bone, and was devoured with a ravenous hunger.

Why did she do it?

She did not know. She scorned herself. But she was sorry for this woman, so poor and so brave, with her eighty-two years, and so bitterly denied in her extremity.

Manon Dax dimly caught the muttered words, and feebly strove to answer them, whilst the winds roared and the snow beat upon her fallen body.

"I cannot rise," she murmured; "my leg is broken, I think. But it is no matter. Go you to the little ones; whoever you are, you are good, and have pity. Go to them, go. It is no matter for me. I have lived my life, any way. It will soon be over. I am not in pain—indeed."

Folle-Farine stood in silence a moment, then stooped and lifted the old creature in her strong young arms, and with that heavy burden set out on her way in the teeth of the storm.

She had known the woman and the little ones by sight and name long and well.

Once or twice when she had passed by them the grandmother, tender of heart but narrow of brain, and believing all the tales of her neighbours, had drawn the children closer to her, under the wing of her serge cloak, lest the evil eye that had bewitched the tanner's youngest born should fall on them, and harm them in like manner.

Nevertheless the evil eyes gleamed on her with a wistful sorrow, as Folle-Farine bore her with easy strength and a sure step through the frozen woodland ways, as she would have borne the load of wool, or the sack of corn, which she was so well used to carry to and fro like a packhorse.

Manon Dax did not stir, she did not even strive to speak again; she was vaguely sensible of a slow, buoyant, painless movement, of a close, soft pressure that sheltered her from the force of the winds; of a subtle warmth that stole through her emaciated, aching frame, and made her drowsy and forgetful and content to bo still.

She could do no more. Her day for struggle and for work was done.

Once she moved a little. Her bearer paused and stopped and listened.

"Did you speak?"

Manon Dax gave a soft, troubled sigh.

"God is good!" she muttered, like one speaking in a dream.

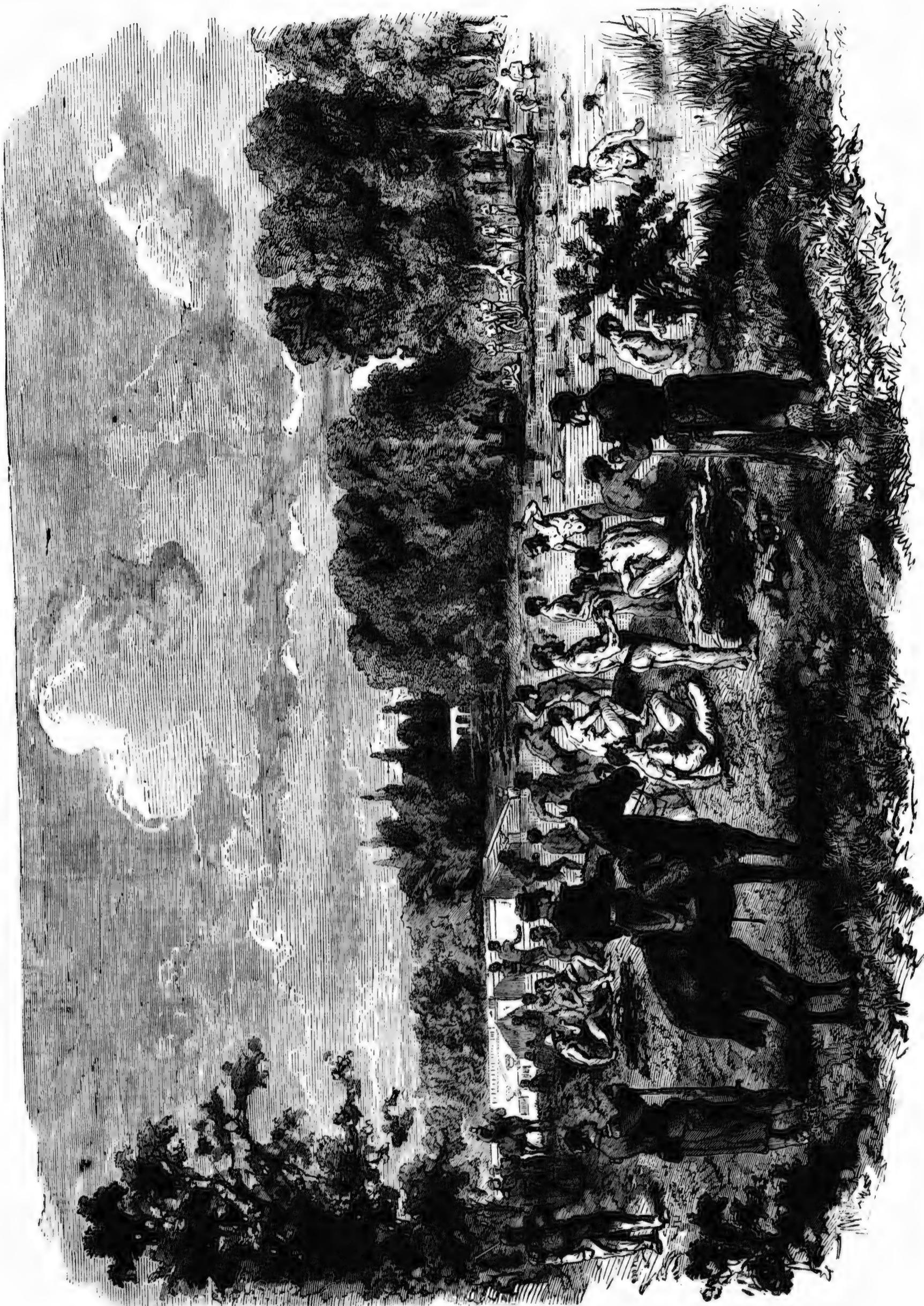
Folle-Farine held on her way, as before her Phratos had once held on his: fiercely blown, blinded by the snow, pierced by the blasts of the hurricane, but sure of foot on the ice as a reindeer, and sure of eye in the dark as a night-hawk.

"Are you in pain?" she asked once of the burden she carried.

"There was no answer.

"She is asleep," she thought, and went onward.

The distance of the road was nothing to her, fleet and firm of step, and inured to all hardships of the weather; yet it cost her an hour to travel it, heavily weighted as she was, soaked with snow-water, blown back continually by the opposing winds, and forced to stagger and to pause by the fury of the storm.



COMMUNIST PRISONERS BATHING AT THE TRIANON, VERSAILLES.

COMMUNIST PRISONERS TAKING A BATH AT TRIANON.

GREAT have been the vicissitudes of Versailles during the calamities that have befallen France. First the head-quarters of the invader, and only restored to its rightful owners to become the seat of a Government which had to make it the rendezvous of a second army with which they fought their way into the insurgent capital, the historical splendour of the royal and imperial town seems to have been nearly erased. The Prussian occupation of the walks and alleys, the fountains and alcoves, the terraces and lawns, was bad indeed; the tramp and muster, the rapid encampment and warlike preparations of another slightly demoralised army, were a blow to what remained of its former prestige; and yet there seems to have been a deeper degradation still left for it. Who can remember with complacency the splendid galleries, the courts of honour, the Royal court, the court of marble, the great collection of historical paintings representing the triumphs of France, the portraits of illustrious Frenchmen, the busts and statues, the views of Royal residences in grand saloons which it required hours to walk through in order to glance at their contents? Who can think comfortably of the Gallery of Mirrors, which have so lately reflected stiff Prussian uniforms instead of the graceful forms and charming faces that once assembled there? Even the gardens, the costly masterpiece of Lenotre, have been desecrated by the clang and bray of war, and all the water of the Grandes Eaux will not wash out the stain of the invader. But there has been worse to come. Prussian hands may have dabbled in the basins of Neptune, Latona, and Apollo; with grimy fingers Bavarian boors may have splashed each other as they stood round the reservoirs of the Domes, the Colonnade, or the Euceladus; the little Trianon, with its tiny palace and its Swiss village,

built by Marie Antoinette in the midst of a garden, may have echoed to guttural shouts and strange oaths; but it remained for the larger Trianon to become the dépôt for the prisoners of the last and worst revolution, and for the lake to be the bathing-places of the convicted Communists. It is not that the prisoners themselves should be prevented from bathing, but that the Trianon lake should be the place wherein they are permitted to plunge, under strict surveillance of their guards, who stand with loaded chasse-pots on the banks while the bathers disport themselves in the pool. There is a strange stern irony in the situation which the French people are scarcely likely to lose sight of, and yet it is a peculiarity of the Parisians that with all their fancy, vivacity, keenness, and quick appreciation of satire, they are among the most matter-of-fact people in the world; taking events for granted in the most wonderful way, and making the best of things as they are with a practical philosophy and elasticity of temper that are the most hopeful signs for their recovery, even from the recent calamities. We may yet see the restoration of Versailles as a place of honour and renown, and then the gay citizens of Paris will be among the first to help us to skip the present page of its history or to recall its incidents with a shrug that will relegate them to the cancelled records of national experience.

THE EVACUATION OF THE PARIS FORTS.

In our last week's Number we illustrated and described the last day of the German occupation of St. Denis; and we now publish an Engraving depicting an incident then mentioned—the sale of "superfluous stores" by the sons of Fatherland ere they took their departure homeward. Much of these stores were indisputably their own; but the French allege that a great deal more were the

fruits of that "requisitioning" in the practice of which the soldiers of Kaiser William have shown themselves such adepts; and certainly some of the articles put up to sale did look rather like the produce of that "sacking" so dear to the heart of old Marshal Blücher, and not, perhaps, altogether disagreeable to the tastes of his countrymen of these days. Still it must be allowed, though Frenchmen may be loth to do so, that, taking them all in all, the Germans have conducted themselves exceedingly well while in France, and ought to leave at least some pleasant memories behind them.

PAPERMAKING IN JAPAN.

A PARLIAMENTARY document, just issued, and comprising reports from three of her Majesty's Consuls in Japan, affords curious and interesting information concerning the art of papermaking in that country. Mr. Lowder's report, addressed to Sir H. Parkes, from Kanagawa, was accompanied by numerous coloured illustrations, the work of native artists, and costing only 4 dols. These illustrations now accompany the report in the form of engravings, and are highly interesting, being singularly bold and graphic, conveying a very clear idea of the processes referred to.

According to Mr. Lowder, the manufacture of paper from the paper-mulberry (*Broussonetia papyrifera*) was introduced into Japan about A.D. 610, being mainly brought about by the skill and enterprise of Shōtoku Taishi, a son of the reigning Mikado, who improved on what he had previously learned from Donchō, a priest from the Corea. This Donchō is said to have been a clever man, learned in the Chinese classics, and a skilful artist. But his paper was not all that could be desired. It did not take ink well, and it tore very easily. Taishi had recourse to the paper-mulberry, and caused it to be extensively planted all over the



THE EVACUATION OF THE PARIS FORTS: SALE OF "SUPERFLUOUS STORES" BY THE GERMANS.

country, taking measures at the same time to have the mode of manufacture largely promulgated among the people. From the year 280 paper had been imported into Japan from the Corea; but soon after 610, thanks to the ingenuity of Taishi, the Japanese learned to make their own paper, and even made it of better quality than that of Corea. The art, as practised in the present day, is very rude in its appliances, but is very satisfactory in its results. The mulberry stalks, cut into lengths of three feet or rather less, are steamed, and the skin, thus softened, is afterwards stripped off by hand. The skins thus peeled off are hung up to dry, a process which occupies from one to three days. They are tied up in bundles and exposed to the action of running water for twelve hours, or perhaps twenty-four. After this washing the outer dark skin is stripped off from the inner fibre by means of a knife, the tool being held stationary with the right hand pressing on the material which lies on a straw padding. The operator then draws the material towards him with the left hand, and as the stuff passes under the edge of the knife the outer fibre is stripped off. The dark outside skin is used for making inferior kinds of paper. After being thoroughly washed in running water, which causes it to open out flat, it is boiled. It is then allowed to rot, and is well beaten, after which paper is made of it by admixture with the "tororo." In years when the paper-mulberry is scarce this kind of paper is sometimes made of the common mulberry. The mode of manufacture is the same, and the leaves are occasionally made use of for the purpose.

Reverting to the treatment of the inner fibre, we observe that this is parcelled into lots of about 32 lb. avoirdupois each. It usually takes three days to make this into paper, but adepts can accomplish its manufacture in two. These parcels are taken to the river and thoroughly washed, after which they are steeped in buckets of water. The water is then run off, and heavy stones

are placed upon the fibre to squeeze out the remaining liquid. The parcels are next boiled, so as to get rid of all sticky and glutinous matter, and the fibre is then called "sosori." Great care has to be taken that the boiling goes on evenly, and sometimes the boiling has to be assisted by throwing in wax-ash or common lime; but the admixture of either of these will slightly affect the colour of the paper. The boiling, moreover, is not carried on by means of common water, but by the use of water in which the ashes of burnt buckwheat husks have been infused. After this boiling the "sosori" undergoes a second washing, in order that the residue of the ash infusion may be thoroughly expelled. For this purpose it is placed in a basket, through which running water is allowed to percolate, after which the basket is lifted up and the water runs off. The night before the paper is made the "sosori" is again washed, and the next morning it is pounded "for about as long a time as it takes to boil the rice for breakfast." When paper is made in the winter a little "tororo" is mixed with the "sosori" before pounding, but in spring rice paste is used. The "tororo" is a plant having a root about the same size as that of the common dock. The sprouts and skin of the root are scraped off, and the root is then beaten. When required for use the "tororo" roots are boiled into a tolerably thin paste and strained through a fine hair sieve into a tub.

In making the paper called "hanshi" the "sosori" is first formed into a large ball, from which lumps are broken off as required. These lumps are cast into what is called the "boat," and thoroughly mixed with well-strained "tororo" paste. The necessary pulpy mass is thus formed. In making "hanshi," the "boat" containing the pulpy material has a length of 6 ft. and a breadth of 3 ft. A sort of tray or frame, of the requisite size, has a false bottom of plaited bamboo. This tray is dipped into the pulp, or the pulp may be poured into it. An inner frame is then

fitted, so as to press down on the false bottom and keep it tightly in its place. A peculiar and dexterous jerk is then given to the apparatus, which has the effect of "setting" the paper. The frame is then placed in a leaning position against an upright rest in the "boat," to allow the water to drain off, while another frame is prepared. By the time second frame is ready the first may be removed, and the entire manipulation is such as can be performed very quickly by experts in the manufacture. Paper made in the winter with "tororo" has the advantage over that made in the spring with rice paste that it is not liable to become worm-eaten.

In order to dry the paper the sheet is removed from the frame with a piece of bamboo, the thicker end of the paper being dexterously curled round the stick. By means of a brush the paper is laid on the drying-board, face downward. Five sheets are placed on each side of the board, which is 6 ft. long, and each manipulator requires forty drying-boards. In fine weather the paper dries quickly; in wet weather it is sometimes dried by the heat of a fire. Cutting is effected by a knife, applied to parcels of 100 sheets. Packing into bundles for the market follows.

Mr. Annesley, writing from Nagasaki, describes the mode of making paper from the bark of the kaji-tree, and says:—"There are no reasons why the kaji-tree should not flourish in England, more especially if planted in a damp soil; and when it is considered that paper could, no doubt, be manufactured from this bark at a cheaper rate than it could be made from rags, added to the considerable strength it can attain and the various useful purposes to which it can be applied, the cultivation of the kaji shrub in England is well worthy of trial." The writer adds:—"Some inquiry after this bark has been made by home paper manufacturers from merchants at this port, and samples have been sent to England, where its value will no doubt be appreciated and

turned to account." The many forms which paper takes in Japan seem to suggest that we are far behind in the development of this industry. The Japanese will make paper "warranted to wash." They also manufacture oil-paper, for rain-coats and other purposes. Some of the common paper is made so tough that it can be torn only with difficulty. Paper is made to have the weight and hardness of heavy wood or the lightness and elegance of net. Paper hats are made in imitation of straw, the paper being twisted, plaited, shaped, and varnished. Leather is also imitated, and these imitations have excellent qualities to recommend them. Coats, shoes, umbrellas, pocket-handkerchiefs, and numberless other articles are made from paper. As for the raw material, we are told that the Japanese are acquainted with the method of manufacturing paper from rags, but never adopt it, preferring to make their paper from the bark of trees. If the kaji-tree can be successfully grown in England, our own papermakers might find it a very useful source for a portion of their raw material. The Japanese seem to luxuriate in an abundance of "sosori;" but in this country the papermaking industry is hemmed in by a comparatively narrow circle. This news comes from Japan very opportunely, and the document before us states that sundry samples of the material have been sent to the South Kensington Museum. The subject is not merely curious, but important. Sir H. Parkes regrets that the information afforded in the Consular reports is not more complete, but says, "It has not been found easy to obtain information from Japanese informants engaged in the trade relative to the production of the raw material or the mode of manipulation." The manufacture appears to be carried on in the interior provinces, and no opportunity of observing the process has been met with at Jeddo.

MUSIC.

THE "Royal National Opera" entered upon its first campaign at St. James's Theatre, on Saturday, since when it has played Balfe's "Rose of Castile," the same composer's "Bohemian Girl," and an English version of Donizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor." Well-wishers to the enterprise must regret that works less hackneyed, and, as regards the English operas, more meritorious, had not been provided for the opening nights. Above all things, it was desirable to present musical attraction at a time when the unaccustomed artists were, because unaccustomed, doing their worst. This may not have been possible, however; and, if so, we can only regret the condition into which English opera has fallen, when it has no alternative but to rely, in the first instance, upon a couple of effete ballad dramas and a translated Italian work. The inaugural performance, like most of its kind, was a rough affair, in which the redeeming points were Miss Rose Hersee's lively singing and acting as Elvira, the embodiment of Manuel by the experienced Mr. George Perren, and the Donna Carmen of Miss Palmer, who seems to have taken to her new vocation very kindly, and will be a valuable member of the company. Miss Hersee justified a considerable American reputation, although her rendering of bravura passages was not in every instance absolutely perfect. She is a pretty and piquant figure on the stage; she acts naturally and well, and shows a bright intelligence which gives promise of yet greater things. In the matter of a light soprano, therefore, the new English opera is well supplied. Mr. Perren's muleteer is well known, and it will be enough to state that it was on this occasion as good as ever. In "Twas rank and fame that tempted thee" the English tenor exerted himself to such effect that an encore was tumultuously demanded. Mr. Temple, as Don Pedro, was painstaking, and he is fast improving into a valuable artist. Of Mr. Stanton as Don Florio and Mr. Carlton as Don Saltus there need not be much said. The chorus was small, but vigorous; and the band, well conducted by Mr. Sidney Naylor, includes some of the best-known members of our best orchestras. The mise en scène compared favourably with that of certain Italian houses we know. On Monday "The Bohemian Girl" enabled Miss Hersee to distinguish herself yet more than in "The Rose of Castile." She represented Arline with entire success, and, whether as singer or actress, won the unstinted favour of her audience. Miss Palmer represented the Gipsy Queen acceptably; and Mr. Nordblom, a Swedish tenor lately connected with Madame Parepa-Rosa's American company, made a good début as Thaddeus. The mezzo-voce of this gentleman is singularly agreeable; he sings with intelligence, and bears himself on the stage with much propriety. Count Arnhem was impersonated by a novice, Mr. Maybrick, of whose pretensions it might be unfair to speak just at present. Mr. Stanton was not humorous as Florestine; but the Devilshoof of Mr. Temple gratified the audience exceedingly, and was a clever example of characteristic acting. With such familiar music to execute, the band and chorus did fairly well, as a matter of course. "The Rose of Castile," having been repeated on Tuesday and again on Wednesday morning, "Lucy of Lammermoor" was produced on Wednesday evening, Madame Florence Lancia sustaining the part of the heroine in a manner becoming her undoubted ability and reputation. Donizetti's florid music suits this lady's powers, while the character enables her to show no ordinary skill in representing strong emotion. Mr. Nordblom was an energetic and, in many respects, satisfactory Edgar, while Mr. Temple did adequate justice to the rôle of Raymond. The other parts were given to débutantes, who must have made the audience as uncomfortable as they obviously were themselves. Mr. Clive Hersee should gain some stage experience before again attempting the important character of Henry Ashton. As for Mr. Gordon (Arthur), Mr. Hillier (Norman), and Miss Cressy (Alice), their doings can be tolerated only on the plea that everyone must make a beginning, and that their beginning was appropriately modest. To-night, Wallace's "Maritana" will be produced.

The first Saturday concert of the season took place last week at the Crystal Palace, and attracted a large audience. In accordance with the published scheme, much of the programme was devoted to the early works of Mendelssohn, all of whose chief compositions are to be given in chronological order. The selections on Saturday comprised the symphony in C minor (No. 1); the overture, ballet music, and three vocal pieces from "The Wedding of Camacho;" and the pianoforte capriccios in the minor keys of F sharp and B.

Some of these were novelties, the operatic vocal pieces, for example, never having been sung in England before; and the capriccio in F sharp minor not having been played in public more than once. It is needless to say that they are full of the composer's characteristic grace and facility. The singers were Madame Rudersdorff and Mr. Rigby. The pianist was Miss Kate Roberts, who improved her position by a performance of genuine skill and power. Outside the Mendelssohn repertory the programme contained only two songs and the overture to "Der Freyschütz." At to-day's concert Madame Cora de Wilhorst, Signor Verger, and Miss Agnes Zimmerman will appear.

The Promenade Concerts have been marked during the week by a new prize battle-piece, entitled "The Battle-Field," composed by M. Van Herzeele. It describes a great many stirring warlike incidents, and is as noisy as the noise-loving section of the audience can desire. Tuesday was a "Wagner night," and a number of selections from that composer's operas were given, including the overture to "Tannhäuser," and portions of "Lohengrin" and "Rienzi." Mendelssohn followed the modern "tone-poet," and a large audience was, therefore, attracted on Wednesday evening. The works performed included a selection from the music to "A Midsummer Night's Dream," songs by Madame Liebhardt, who was encored in "O Jugend, O Schöne Rosenheit;" the capriccio in B minor, played in brilliant style by Mlle. Carreno; and "The Wedding March." M. Rivière, the energetic entrepreneur, takes his benefit on the closing night of the series, Saturday, Oct. 14. Next week is the last of these entertainments; and we understand that the season has been successful in an unexpected degree.

FATHER HYACINTHE intends to preach a series of sermons in Paris.

THE MYSTIC FORCE.

(From the "Daily Telegraph.")

It will be remembered that about a year ago Mr. William Crookes, F.R.S., contributed to the *Quarterly Journal of Science* an article on some experiments he had made with the view of testing the validity of spiritualistic phenomena. He then also indicated several further tests which men of science had a right to demand before giving credence to the genuineness of the phenomena. He held that a "delicately-poised balance should be moved under test conditions," and that some exhibition of power equivalent to so many "foot-pounds" should be manifested. Mr. Crookes had the opportunity of applying his tests at several meetings with Mr. D. D. Home; and in the July number of the *Quarterly Journal of Science* he published the result of his investigations in an article which created a more than usual amount of interest. Mr. Home caused an accordion to play simple tunes whilst holding it with one hand, top downwards, in an inclosed cage—his feet being all the time carefully guarded, and his other hand on the table being watched by three persons. The weight-test was also successfully applied. These experiments sufficed to convince Mr. Crookes that many of the phenomena were indisputably genuine; but, as he was not prepared to admit that the causes were such as the spiritualists alleged, he felt himself under the necessity of establishing what he held to be a new power, which he then named the psychic force. Certain persons in certain states of the organism were declared to be able, by power of will, to act on material substances at a distance, and in a manner not explained by any other recognised force.

Since that time Mr. Crookes has taken several opportunities of further verifying the existence of this force; and he has communicated to the *Quarterly Journal of Science* for October an account of his later experiments. He says that he now advances much which is "new in the way of experimental evidence in support of his previous conclusions." He also says that many of the objections to his former experiments are answered by the series now related. He confesses that he has been working at the subject for more than two years, and that he has found nine or ten persons who possess psychic power in more or less degree; but its development in Mr. Home is so powerful that, having satisfied himself by careful experiments that the phenomena were genuine, he had, merely as a matter of convenience, carried on the experiments with him, in preference to working with others in whom the power existed in a less striking degree. Most of the experiments, however, have also been tried with another person, and in Mr. Home's absence.

On making his experiments for the first time, Mr. Crookes acknowledges that he thought actual contact between Mr. Home's hands and the suspended body, where weight and alteration of weight were to be indicated, was essential to the exhibition of the force; but he has since found that this is not a necessary condition—the first of his new series of experiments decisively establishing the point. The test apparatus used was somewhat complicated; but it may be shortly described thus:—A mahogany board, 36 in. long by 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide and 1 in. thick, is suspended at one end from a tripod stand, and on the suspending line is a spring balance with an automatic register. The other end of the board is supported on a wooden strip, screwed across its lower side and cut to a knife-edge. This fulcrum rests on a firm and heavy wooden stand. On the board, exactly over the fulcrum, is placed a large glass vessel filled with water. A massive iron stand, furnished with an arm and a ring, supports a hemispherical copper vessel, perforated with several holes at the bottom. The iron stand is 2 in. from the board, and the arm and copper vessel are so adjusted that the latter dips into the vessel 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., being 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. from the bottom of the glass vessel and 2 in. from its circumference. Shaking or striking the arm of the stand or the vessel does not produce any appreciable effect on the board capable of affecting the balance. As dipping the hand to the fullest extent in the water in the copper bowl does not produce the least appreciable effect on the balance, the power of muscular control is thereby completely eliminated. The moving index of the spring balance has a fine point of steel soldered to it, and projecting horizontally outwards. In front of the balance and firmly fastened to it is a grooved frame, carrying a flat box similar to the box of a photographic camera. This box is made to travel by clockwork horizontally in front of the moving index, and it contains a sheet of plate glass which has been smoked over a flame. The projecting steel point impresses a mark on this smoked surface. If the balance is at rest and the clock set going, the result is a perfectly straight horizontal line. If the clock is stopped and weights are placed on the end of the board under the balance, the result is a vertical line, the length of which depends on the weight applied. But if, whilst the clock draws the plate along, the weight of the board or the tension of the balance varies, the result is a curved line, from which the tension in grains at any moment can be calculated. The instrument is capable of measuring a diminution of the force of gravitation as well as the increase.

Having described the test apparatus, we now let Mr. Crookes relate his first experiment:—"The apparatus having been properly adjusted before Mr. Home entered the room, he was brought in and asked to place his fingers in the water in the copper vessel. He stood up and dipped the tips of the fingers of his right hand in the water, his other hand and his feet being held. When he said he felt a power, force, or influence proceeding from his hand I set the clock going, and almost immediately the end of the board under the balance was seen to descend slowly and remain down about ten seconds; it then descended a little further, and afterwards rose to its normal height. It then descended again, rose suddenly, gradually sunk for seventeen seconds, and finally rose to its normal height, where it remained till the experiment was concluded. The lowest point marked on the glass was equivalent to a direct pull of about 5000 grains. [The mark traced on the glass was an irregular curve, roughly resembling, say, the outline on the map of the coast of Kent from London to the North Foreland.]

The second experiment was directed to testing whether the power or force would affect the weight, either through other portions of the apparatus or the air, as it had done through the water. "The glass vessel and the iron stand were therefore removed, as an unnecessary complication, and Mr. Home's hands were placed on the stand of the apparatus, some distance from the end of the mahogany board, where the glass vessel had been placed. A gentleman present put his hands on Mr. Home's hands and his foot on both of Mr. Home's feet, and I also watched him closely all the time. At the proper moment the clock was again set going; the board descended and rose in an irregular manner. [The line traced on the smoked glass was a rude approximation to the outline on the map of the south coast of England.]"

The third experiment was still more conclusive, inasmuch as Mr. Home was placed about one foot distant from the mahogany board and on one side of it. His hands and feet were firmly grasped by a bystander, and another tracing, somewhat like the outline of solitary heights against a sky line, was got on the moving glass plate. In the fourth experiment, when the power was stronger than on the previous occasions, Mr. Home was placed three feet from the apparatus, and his hands and feet tightly held. The clock was set going when he gave the word, and the end of the board under the balance soon descended, and again rose in an irregular manner, giving still more decided and continuous markings than in the third experiment.

Other experiments were made with still more delicate indices for testing and measuring the least application of force, and with similar results. Mr. Crookes finishes his article with the following passage:—"These experiments confirm beyond doubt the conclusions at which I arrived in my former paper—namely, the existence of a force associated, in some manner not yet explained, with the human organisation, by which force increased weight is capable of being imparted to solid bodies without physical contact. In the case of Mr. Home, the development of this force varies enormously, not only from week to week, but from hour to hour; on some occasions the force is inappreciable by my tests for an

hour or more, and then suddenly reappears in great strength. It is capable of acting at a distance from Mr. Home (not unfrequently as far as 2 ft. or 3 ft.), but is always strongest close to him. Being firmly convinced that there could be no manifestation of one form or force without the corresponding expenditure of some other form of force, I for a long time searched in vain for evidence of any force or power being used up in the production of these results. Now, however, having seen more of Mr. Home, I think I perceive what it is that this psychic force uses up for its development. In employing the term vital force, or nervous energy, I am aware that I am employing words which convey very different significances to many investigators; but, after witnessing the painful state of nervous and bodily prostration in which some of these experiments have left Mr. Home—after seeing him lying in an almost fainting condition on the floor, pale and speechless, I could scarcely doubt that the evolution of psychic force is accompanied by a corresponding drain on vital force. I have ventured to give this new force the name of psychic force, because of its manifest relationship to certain psychological conditions, and because I was most desirous to avoid the foregone conclusions implied in the title under which it has hitherto been claimed as belonging to a province beyond the range of experiment and argument. But, having found that it is within the province of purely scientific research, it is entitled to be known by a scientific name, and I do not think a more appropriate one could have been selected. To witness exhibitions of this force it is not necessary to have access to known psychics. The force itself is probably possessed by all human beings, although the individuals endowed with an extraordinary amount of it are, doubtless, few. Within the last twelve months I have met in private families five or six persons possessing a sufficiently vigorous development to make me feel confident that similar results might be produced through their means to those here recorded, provided the experimentalist worked with more delicate apparatus, capable of indicating a fraction of a grain, instead of recording pounds and ounces only. As far as my other occupations will permit, I purpose to continue the experiments in various forms, and I will report, from time to time, their results. In the mean while I trust that others will be induced to pursue the investigation in its scientific form. It should, however, be understood that, equally with all other scientific experiments, these researches must be conducted in strict compliance with the conditions under which the force is developed. As it is an indispensable condition of experiments with frictional electricity that the atmosphere should be free from excess of moisture, and that no conducting medium should touch the instrument while the force is being generated, so certain conditions are found to be essential to the production and operation of the psychic force, and unless these precautions are observed the experiments will fail. I am emphatic on this point, because unreasonable objections have sometimes been made to the psychic force that it is not developed under adverse conditions dictated by the experimentalist, who, nevertheless, would object to conditions being imposed upon himself in the exhibition of any of his own scientific results. But I may add that the conditions required are very few, very reasonable, and in no way obstruct the most perfect observation and the application of the most rigid and accurate tests."

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE EARL OF CARLISLE.—A memorial to the late Earl of Carlisle was inaugurated at Morpeth, on Monday, by Earl Grey. The memorial consists of a bust in marble, by Foley, and of a present worth about £200, consisting of a telescope and microscope and scientific books. The bust, which is a faithful representation of the late Earl's features and expression, has been placed on the staircase of the Townhall. The memorial was subscribed for by the inhabitants of Morpeth and neighbourhood. Earl Grey, in his address, spoke of his close acquaintance with the late Lord Carlisle, and said it was unnecessary for him to allude to all the public affairs with which Lord Carlisle was identified, as a member of the House of Commons or as Minister of the Crown, for to do so would be to write a history of the times over which his public life extended. He would only refer to the consistent and steady course of conduct which he pursued, and mentioned especially the agitation for the repeal of the corn laws. The whole course of his life was characterized by an earnest endeavour to promote the good of the people. Sir George Grey afterwards alluded to the Newcastle strike, and said the question of the future relations between capital and labour might fill statesmen with some concern, but he was not without hope that means would be found to harmonise their claims satisfactorily.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards amounting to £201 were voted to the crews of various life-boats for services rendered during recent storms, when no less than forty-nine lives and four vessels were saved by the boats. Altogether it is gratifying to know that during the past twenty-one months the National Life-Boat Institution has been instrumental, by its life-boats and other means, in saving 1424 lives from different wrecks, besides aiding to rescue forty vessels from destruction. The silver medal of the institution and a copy of the vote inscribed on vellum were granted to Miss Jane Campbell, of Drogheda, Ireland, in acknowledgment of her brave conduct, during a strong easterly gale, in wading into a heavy surf and saving one of the crew of the brig Manly, of Whithaven, which had been wrecked near Drogheda Bar. The poor man was in a very exhausted state when rescued, as he had been a long time in the water, and had floated some distance with the aid of a life-buoy, and he would inevitably have perished had it not been for the noble conduct of Miss Campbell, in rushing, at great peril, to his rescue, and then using proper means to restore him to consciousness. The thanks of the institution inscribed on vellum were also presented to Mrs. Fox, of Kells, near Drogheda, in testimony of her most valuable services in aiding and encouraging Miss Campbell to accomplish her mission of mercy. Payments amounting to £3500 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. The hon. Secretary of the Tramore branch, Edward Jacob, Esq., had, with the assistance of some ladies who had previously contributed to the Irish National Life-Boat Bazaar, realised £241 1s. 6d. on behalf of the life-boat fund by the sale of needles and other kinds of work at Tramore. The late Thomas Shipstone, Esq., of Beverley, had left the society a legacy of £50. The quarterly exercise of the Southend (Cantyre) life-boat, last week, was witnessed by Her Royal Highness the Marchioness of Lorne, the Marquess of Lorne, and other distinguished visitors, who were much pleased with it. Reports were read from the Inspector and the assistant inspector of life-boats to the institution on their recent visits to the coasts.

A DOMESTIC SQUABBLE.—Mr. Frank Buckland describes, in *Land and Water*, the swallowing by a python of a boa-constrictor:—"A few days ago a rabbit was, in due course of things, put into a cage occupied by two or three boa-constrictors and pythons at the Zoological Gardens. Shortly afterwards Holland, the intelligent and obliging keeper of the snake-house, was made aware, by the excitement of the visitors, that something unusual was going on. Running round to the back of the cage, he saw in a minute what had happened—one of the largest of the snakes had swallowed whole one of his comrades. Holland was only just in time, as the smaller snake had almost disappeared down the throat of the larger snake, there being only three or four inches of his tail hanging out of one side of the mouth of this voracious snake cannibal. Jumping immediately into the cage in a most plucky manner, Holland seized the cannibal tightly by the throat. The brute at once opened his great wide mouth, and out popped the rabbit, dead, of course. Why the rabbit should come out first I cannot understand, but it did. Holland then, seeing snake number one writhing and wriggling about inside snake number one, seized hold of the protruding four inches of the tail of the latter and hauled away on it, getting out a few more inches, just enough to get a grip with his hand and prevent the poor snake disappearing altogether. Still holding the bigger snake by the neck, he then began a series of pulling, shaking, punching in the ribs, and squeezing, till at last he succeeded in making the big snake disgorge his friend from his capacious stomach. When once the smaller snake 'got way' on him he slipped out easy enough, only stern foremost, of course. He was not hurt a bit; he simply laid on the door of the den for awhile, with his mouth open, wondering, doubtless, where he had been and what had happened. I saw him just now, coiled up on his bench, looking quite happy. The larger snake, the 'swallowee,' was an Indian python between 10 ft. and 11 ft. long; Holland thinks that the smaller snake must have caught the rabbit first, and the larger one must have seized it simultaneously, or else a few moments afterwards, so that the big snake really could not help swallowing the smaller one, as the sharp teeth in both jaws are set backwards, and are as missiles in their grip and as tight in their hold as the machinery of a thrashing machine. Whatever once touches the points of these teeth, living or dead, must go down *thick as descense*. The mouth of the larger snake was opened wide by Holland's grip, the smaller one was enabled to slip out, backwards, from his uncomfortable quarters without coming in contact with the teeth. Holland says that two of the bystanders did not seem the least to wonder at the above unusual event. They merely said, 'Oh, it's all right, I suppose!'"

THE STRIKES.

NEWCASTLE.—Mr. Mundella, on the behalf of the Nine-Hours League, last week made a proposal to the masters to the effect that part of the diminution of working hours should be conceded to the men, and that they should submit to a reduction of wages to cover the remainder—the amount of reduction to be settled by arbitration. The masters, however, declined the proposal, as they say wages must fluctuate with the state of the market, and in a short time they would be called on to raise the wages again while the nine hours remained the same. Sir William Armstrong, who writes in the name of the masters, adheres to his original offer of two hours out of the five demanded, or else he suggests a conference composed of masters and men selected from the engineers of the United Kingdom, who would be empowered to select arbiters to settle the dispute. That closed the negotiation for the time, but Mr. Mundella has since submitted to the acceptance of both parties the following proposals:

That a board of arbitration be formed, composed of equal numbers of employers and workmen, with a referee to be mutually agreed upon, in order to determine the present dispute on the following basis:—

1. Fifty-four hours per week to be the nominal working hour, the rate of wages to be adjusted by arbitration.

2. That overtime shall be worked as heretofore when the exigencies of trade require it. Its extent and remuneration to be fixed by the board.

3. That any loss of ordinary time through the intemperance, neglect, or default of workman shall count against his overtime during the week in which the loss is incurred.

4. That the first arbitration shall be binding on both parties for six months, and shall continue in force for a whole year, unless a month's notice be given by either party before six months expire. If any revision be desired, such proposed changes to be the subject of arbitration.

In his letter to Sir William Armstrong submitting this fresh proposal Mr. Mundella says:—

The entire difference between this proposal and yours is that overtime would begin to reckon three hours sooner under it than under your own, but the employers would secure equitable rates of wages, steady concentrated working, a guarantee against lost time and irregular habits. They could enter into contracts with security and execute them with certainty. I firmly believe, as the result of my investigations in Newcastle and the neighbourhood, that at the end of the first year as much work would have been performed under the new system as under the old; and the advantage which would accrue to all parties would indispose them to regret the change, and would in no small degree compensate for the moral and pecuniary loss arising from this prolonged strike.

SHEFFIELD.—The joiners and carpenters of Sheffield have issued a circular to their employers to the effect that as they have failed to obtain a meeting with the masters' association on the matters which have been in dispute since May, 1869, they intend to press their demands upon each employer separately. They ask for the nine hours' system and a code of rules. At a meeting of the Sheffield scissors-grinders, held on Monday, it was resolved to strike for an advance of 10 per cent. Some of the manufacturers have already agreed to give the advance, and others have offered a compromise of 5 per cent. The members of the manufacturers' association will reserve their final answer until this day.

LEEDS.—The threatened strike of Leeds miners has been averted, the masters having agreed to an advance which will average nearly 10 per cent upon the present wages. The colliers in the Normanton district are applying for an advance of 2d. per ton, which they say was taken off during the depression of 1867. The night-soil men employed by the Leeds Corporation, who received 8d. per ton, have struck for an advance of one penny. They have been offered a halfpenny. The scavengers also threaten to strike unless their wages are increased by 2s. per week.

FIRESHIRE.—The miners employed in the northern section of Dysart Colliery, Fifeshire, struck on Monday for an advance of wages. At a meeting held on Tuesday evening the men resolved not to resume work until their demand shall have been granted. The Darlaston lockmakers are also on strike, owing to a section of the masters having determined on a reduction in the price of "store" locks, which had hitherto been paid for at the rate of 1d. each, but which some of the masters wished to reduce to 10d.

GLASGOW.—The whole of the shipwrights on the Clyde who have been on strike for an advance of wages during the past six weeks have been formally locked out by the masters.

DUNDEE.—On Monday about 1500 spinners and preparers at several factories in Dundee struck work, throwing a large number of other hands out of employ. It is understood they wish for 6d. a week extra and a modification with regard to meal hours.

DUBLIN.—The rope and twine makers of Dublin have struck for higher wages.

DUNDALK.—The tailors of Dundalk having struck against sewing-machines, a number of Scotch tailors went and supplied their places. A murderous attack was made on them, while proceeding to their work, by twenty men, armed with heavy sticks. Three of the Scotchmen were seriously beaten on the head, and one of them is not expected to survive.

OBITUARY.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL.—Mr. George Traill, for many years M.P. for the county of Caithness, died last Saturday, at the age of eighty. Mr. Traill was educated at Westminster School and Edinburgh University, and was called to the Scotch Bar in 1811. In 1830 he was returned for the county of Orkney in the Reform interest, and remained its representative during that and the two succeeding Parliaments, elected respectively in 1831 and 1832. At the general election of 1835 he was defeated by Mr. Thomas Balfour, the Conservative candidate, and remained out of Parliament until 1857, when, at the general election rising out of the demise of the Crown in that year, he was returned for the county of Caithness, which he continued to represent through all succeeding Parliaments until 1869, when his failing health led to the resignation of his seat. He was throughout his career a firm supporter of Reform, of Free Trade, and generally of those principles with which the name of the Liberal party has been connected for the past thirty years. Mr. Traill was a Vice-Lieutenant for Caithness-shire, and Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Orkney.

SIR JAMES DOMBRAIN.—The public has lost a valuable servant in the person of Sir James Dombain, for thirty years Inspector-General of the Coastguard in Ireland, who died a few days since at his residence, Woodstock, Sandford, near Dublin, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Sir James, who was the son of the late Mr. Abraham Dombain, of Canterbury, was born in the year 1793. He entered the Royal Navy in 1808, and was appointed in 1816 to the post of Deputy Controller-General of the Coastguard of the United Kingdom, and subsequently became Controller-General of the Coastguard service in Ireland. He introduced and organised that force, which he conducted for thirty years; and was knighted by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (the late Earl De Grey) after an inspection of revenue cruisers at Kingstown in 1844. Sir James Dombain, who was a Commissioner of Irish Lighthouses, married, in 1816, a daughter of the late Mr. Robert Furley, of Canterbury, and became a widower about seven years ago.

MR. THOMAS BAKER.—Mr. Thomas Baker, who lately died at the Charterhouse, was the son of a farmer at Old Park, near Durham, and was nearly self taught in the science of mathematics. He was the inventor of the celebrated method of laying down railway curves, and he also initiated and perfected many of the most abstruse matters in connection with railway surveying. In the infancy of railways Mr. Baker was very extensively engaged in many parts of the kingdom; in fact, the very first line, the Stockton and Darlington Railway, was laid by him. He was an extensive writer of both political and mathematical works, and published, amongst others, the following:—"An Original Method of Integration," "Elements and Practice of Mensuration," "A Treatise of Subterranean Surveying," "A Treatise on Land and Engineering Surveying," "Principles and Practice of Statics and Dynamics," and "The Mathematical Companion."

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

CHARGE OF WILFUL FIRE-RAISING.—At the Thames Police Court, on Monday, William Anthony, aged twenty-one years, a blacksmith, of 2, Parker-street, Drury-lane, was taken before Mr. Paget, charged with wilfully setting fire to the goods on the St. George's Suffrage Wharf, S.W., Wapping-wall. Mr. George Clark, the chief detective of Scotland-yard, was the prosecuting officer, and it appeared from his statements that in the course of the last few months the prisoner had made thirty-six calls upon firemen at the various fire-brigade stations, and upon the keepers of the fire-escapes, for them to attend fires in various parts of the metropolis, and on each occasion he received a reward of 1s. or 2s. 6d. for his information. At last his calls became so frequent that he was suspected of setting fire to the various buildings, sheds, and property of which he gave very early tidings. The mystery attending the origin of many of the fires increased the suspicion against him.

On the morning of the 20th of last month, at five minutes to one o'clock, the prisoner waited on Richard Gatehouse, the keeper of the fire-escape opposite Shadwell church, and said that a fire had just broken out at the St. George's Suffrage Wharf, in Wapping-wall, and earnestly desired Gatehouse to make all possible haste to the spot. Gatehouse said, "I hope you have not called me to a chimney on fire." The prisoner replied, "No, it is a real good fire." Gatehouse, with the assistance of the prisoner, conveyed his escape and apparatus for saving life to the scene of the conflagration, which was then raging with much fury at the St. George's Suffrage Wharf. The premises and a large quantity of straw, carts, and sheds were destroyed. The prisoner assisted Gatehouse to convey the escape and apparatus back to Shadwell church, and received 2s. 6d. for the "call" and for his trouble. A suspicion was entertained that the fire was the work of an incendiary, and the case was put into the hands of Detective-Inspector Clark. It was proved that the wharf was in a perfectly safe condition at half-past ten on the night of Sept. 19, and there was then no light nor any combustible on the premises. A fireman named Thomas Mahan, of the Wellington-square fire-engine station, subsequently waited on the prisoner at his lodgings in Parker-street, Drury-lane, and said the receipt he had given for the half crown for the call and assistance at the fire at Wapping-wall had been lost, and that another was required. The prisoner denied that he had ever been to Wapping, saying he did not know where it was. Mahan said, "No, you have been down to Wapping, and you received a half crown." The receipt was produced, and the signature, W. Anthony, was compared with other receipts given by the prisoner and found to correspond. The prisoner denied that he was in Shadwell or Wapping on the morning in question, but the evidence of Gatehouse was confirmed by Waller, a police-constable, No. 313 K, who saw him opposite Shadwell church on the morning of the 20th ult., and heard him say there was a good fire on Wapping-wall, and the escape would be required there. Inspector Clark was about to call other witnesses to confirm Gatehouse, when Mr. Paget said there was no occasion to do so. Other evidence made out a strong case of suspicion against the prisoner. The property destroyed at the St. George's Wharf, belonging to Mr. Mark John Tomkin, a contractor, amounted to between £100 and £500, and at the thirty-six fires the prisoner was supposed to have caused there was a destruction of property to the amount of £100,000. Mr. Paget: "And to obtain the trumpery gratuity of a shilling or half crown?" Inspector Clark: "Yes, Sir, that is so. In thirty-six instances he was very early in his calls, and received the gratuity in each case." Mr. Paget remanded the prisoner for a week.

STREET ARABS AND THE SOUTH LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—Clifton Taylor, thirteen, and Patrick Duval, twelve, were taken before Mr. Benson, at Southwark, on Tuesday, from Saint George's Workhouse, for final examination, charged with wandering in Blackman-street in a destitute condition, having no home or habitation. Thomas Ironmonger, an officer of the London School Board, said that on the morning of the 26th ult. he found the prisoners lying on a doorstep in Blackman-street, in a filthy and miserable condition. He asked them if they had any home or any parents. Taylor said he had a mother, and Duval said he had no friends or relations that

he knew of. He brought them before his Worship, who remanded them to the workhouse, where they had been very kindly treated and clothed. Mr. Benson observed that he hardly knew them from their altered appearance. He inquired of the officer what he had discovered about them. Mr. Ironmonger said that Taylor had been in the Shoeblack Brigade, but dismissed for misconduct. He had a mother, but she could not be found. As for Duval, he had ascertained that his mother was undergoing a sentence in Wandsworth House of Correction for felony, and he had no one to take care of him. Mr. Benson asked Taylor where he slept at night? He replied in the lodging-houses in the Mint, and that he obtained the money to pay for his lodging by minding gentlemen's horses. He had a mother and a stepfather, but he did not know where to find them. Mr. Benson observed that he should send both the lads to industrial schools, but if the parents of either could be found he should compel them to pay something towards their maintenance, as industrial schools were not established to relieve them of their responsibilities. He accordingly ordered them to be detained in an industrial school until they reached the age of sixteen. George Thomas Gardner, seven, was next charged with a similar offence. Sergeant Hornsby, M Division, found the child wandering about the Borough Market in a dirty state. By direction of his Worship he took him to the workhouse, and had since found his mother. The latter said she was a widow, left with three young children besides the prisoner. She was compelled to go out to work, leaving them in charge of the eldest girl, ten years of age, but she could not keep her brother in. He was a very bad boy, and she should like to get him into an industrial school. Mr. Benson told her he was too young for that. She ought to send him to school. She said she could not afford it, as she received relief from St. Saviour's parish. Mr. Benson told her that there were charitable schools in that parish where she could send him. She must keep him out of the street. He advised her to call on the minister of the parish, who no doubt would assist her. The boy was restored to her.

HORSEDEALERS' TRICKS.—At Marlborough-street, on Tuesday, William Wicks and James Quint were charged before Mr. Newton with conspiring together to defraud Dr. Frederick de Lisle, physician, of Bridge House, Kingston-on-Thames, of the sum of £15. Mr. Froggatt appeared for the prisoners. Dr. de Lisle deposed that early last month, in consequence of seeing an advertisement in the *Daily Telegraph* of a cob for sale, to be seen at No. 25, Dean-street, Soho, he went there and saw the prisoner Wicks, who represented himself as the owner of the stable, and who said he could not see the cob then, as the owner had gone to Richmond, but he could see it on the following Saturday. He went on the next Tuesday, and saw both prisoners; and, on being told by Quint that he knew the cob to be thoroughly sound and quiet, and receiving a warranty from him, in the name of Hall, to the effect that the cob was quiet to ride and drive, six years old, free from vice, and that if otherwise the money would be returned, he agreed to become the purchaser, and paid down, by cheque, £15, Quint at the time representing that he was the groom of Mr. Hall, the owner. The second day he tried the cob in the saddle, and found it to "buck," and, on putting it into a gig, it would not draw the vehicle out of the yard, and when struck with the whip put down its head and backed against the wall, damaging it to some extent. He went to Dean-street and saw Quint, who declared he knew nothing about the matter, and had not received the money. Afterwards he sent a letter to Mr. Hall at the address in Dean-street, asking him to take back the cob and return the money, but received no answer until after he had applied at the court for a warrant. The answer he received was as follows:—"Dear Sir,—In answer to yours I am sorry to hear it don't suit you. I have no use for it; and if you will sell it any loss you may sustain I will make good.—W. H. HALL." Wicks denied that he said he was the owner of the stable, but that he was looking after it. The prosecutor, in answer to Mr. Newton, said he showed the animal to a veterinary surgeon. It afterwards went dead lame, and he sold it for £5. Detective-Sergeant Gibbs said on apprehending the prisoners they said they thought the case had been settled. Detective-Sergeant Campbell said he had known both prisoners for some time, and also a man named Hall, who was connected with the gang. He could not say that either of the prisoners had ever been convicted. Mr. Newton committed the prisoners for trial, and refused bail.

THE SAILORS' HOME.—At the Thames Police Court, on Tuesday, Mr. Balding, the cashier of the Sailors' Home in Wells-street, Whitechapel, was summoned before Mr. Paget by a seaman, named Frederick Westbrook, for detaining a suit of clothes, the property of the complainant. Mr. Pelham said the cashier of the Home determined to turn an honest penny by selling watches and jewellery, and he had taken out a jeweller's licence for that purpose. The defendant had sold a gold ring for 18s. to the complainant, and because it was not immediately paid had detained a suit of clothes for the amount, which he had no right to do. Mr. Paget: "Certainly not. The defendant had no right whatever to detain the sailor's clothes for a debt." The Defendant's Solicitor: "So I have told him, and he is willing to give up the clothes and pay the costs." Mr. Pelham: "That is all I require." The Defendant's Solicitor: "I offered to return the things and pay the costs some time ago, and we are dragged into court to traduce the Sailors' Home." Mr. Pelham: "So much sympathy is manifested for the Sailors' Home that we dare not say a word about the Home without being found fault with." Mr. Paget: "Nonsense. I have no sympathy with the Sailors' Home, none at all. Mr. Balding is not here, and a warrant will be issued for his apprehension in the usual course unless the case can be arranged." The matter was settled by the defendant's solicitor agreeing to return the sailor's clothes, paying one guinea to Mr. Pelham for his costs, and 4s. for other costs. A seaman applied to Mr. Paget for a summons against Mr. Balding for selling to him what he termed a duffing silver watch for 26s. 6d., which was only worth 11s., and had been valued at that sum by a watchmaker. He had bought the watch in the Sailors' Home while lodgings

there. Mr. Paget asked the sailor if he had asked Mr. Balding to return the money or change the watch for a better one. The Seaman: "No, I have not, Sir." Mr. Paget: "You must do that before I can assist you or grant a summons."

RIDDEN DOWN AND KILLED.—**EXTRAORDINARY VERDICT.**—On Tuesday evening Mr. Wm. Carter, the Coroner for East Surrey, held an inquiry at the Finish Tavern, Bermondsey, touching the death of Charles George Wood, aged about eight years, the son of a master hatter, living at Aldermanster-road. It appeared from the evidence that on Saturday evening last, about six o'clock, the deceased, with some other boys, was playing in the road, near the parents' residence, when a horse ridden by a man named Samuel Bennett came along, and before the poor boy was aware of his danger the animal was upon him. He was knocked down and trampled upon, and before anyone could get to his assistance the horse stumbled and fell on him, inflicting such fearful injuries that he expired shortly afterwards from the effects. The rider of the horse, it was stated, could have prevented the occurrence if he chose, but he deliberately ran the deceased down. The accused was apprehended, and charged with causing the death of deceased. He was brought before the magistrate at the Southwark Police Court, but owing to the serious nature of the case he was remanded, in order for further evidence to be procured. Police-Constable Robert Barry, 138 M, stated that when he took the prisoner into custody he said, "It's a bad job; it was a spirited horse." Mrs. Charlotte Wood, mother of the deceased, said last Saturday evening she was standing at the door of her house, when she saw a horse coming along the public road galloping at an alarming rate. She called to the deceased and some other boys who were playing there, but before they had time to get out of the way he was knocked down, and the horse, stumbling, fell on him. Witness went to the spot and picked the deceased up, but he had received such shocking injuries that he died about half-past ten the same night. Some further evidence of a similar character was given. The Coroner said that the case was one of a very serious character, and that it would be better to adjourn the Court for further evidence; but the jury declared themselves quite satisfied with what had been stated, and returned a verdict of "Accidental death," to the astonishment of those present.

DARING BURGLARY.—On Sunday morning, about three o'clock, a daring burglary was committed at the Cricketers Inn, High-street, Aldershot. Mr. and Mrs. Garrett, the occupiers, had retired to rest, and in the middle of the night Mrs. Garrett was awakened by footsteps passing from one bed-room to the other. She imagined it was one of her children coming into the room to get some drink, as was customary; and after asking who was there, and getting no reply, she lay down again, in no way alarmed. Soon afterwards she heard some one take a box off a table in her room. She got up and roused her husband, who immediately jumped out of bed and made for the intruder, whom he partly secured, but in the struggle got one of his fingers nearly bitten off and received several cuts on one of his hands. Mrs. Garrett attempted to aid in the capture of the burglar, who managed to get off with a booty of about £10, but without some wearing apparel he had previously packed up. In escaping he also left behind a forage-cap, with the number torn off, a serge jacket without its shoulder-strap, and a belt, the latter showing his number and regiment (22nd). It seems that he had effected an entrance by the kitchen window, treated himself to a good supper, and then, arming himself with a kitchen knife, went up stairs, prepared for robbery, and murder if necessary. Though he carried off the £10, he fortunately overlooked some gold coin which was lying close by. The police are making every exertion to capture the offender. Mr. Garrett remains very weak from the wound he received in his encounter with the desperate ruffian.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—A. ANGUS, Sunderland china-dealer. **BANKRUPTS.**—H. RICHMOND, Dumfriesshire, miller—J. CROMPTON, Liverpool and Birkenhead, wholesale cigar-dealer—E. W. DAVIES, Birkenhead, draper—J. DAVIES, Gloucester, general dealer—E. FITTON, Oldham, cake-baker—R. GARMAN, Walsall, manufacturer—J. M. HANN, Birmingham, leather manufacturer—H. MORLEY, Melton, tanner—E. PARSONS, Laverstock, farmer—W. PEARSON, Oswestry, draper—P. W. V. READE, Ryde—E. F. WALTER, Croydon, licensed victualler.

TUESDAY, OCT. 3.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—C. H. ONIONS, Deepfields, ironmaster. **BANKRUPTS.**—A. J. MILLS, Notting-hill—H. MUNDY, Grosvenor-street—G. BASSETT, Shore Hill-way—T. and W. CAMBOURNE, Old Sudbury and Yate, machine-makers—J. CLEGG, Blockley, labourer—J. CARLISLE, Carlisle, druggist—R. DAVIDSON, Carlisle, innkeeper—W. GLEDFIELD, Worley, shoe manufacturer—S. RICHARDS, Falmouth, binder—J. WATKINS, Gisbey, cloth manufacturer—C. SHERIDAN, Dorchester—J. WALKER, and T. SEARS, Kingston-on-Hull, seed merchants—A. WELCH, Edgeley Brow, coal merchant. **SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.**—A. YUILLE, Glasgow, practical chemist.

MORTALITY AMONG CHILDREN.—At the Meeting of the Hospital for Sick Children, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales remarked upon the Medical Reports and Registrar-General's Return, showing an extremely large percentage of deaths among children. Many illness and death were attributed if, in teething. Mrs. JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP was used. It has stood the test of fifty years. None genuine without the name of "Barclay and Sons, 95, Farringdon-street" is on the stamp. Sold by all Chemists, at 2s. 9d. a bottle.

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Families are waited upon, "free of any extra charge,"
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Elegant Silk Costumes, just from Paris.

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CRAPE, SPOTLESS CRAPE,
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The Richest Quadruplex, triple, and Double Crapes,
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PETER ROBINSON can supply a handsome Black
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in exquisite taste, and
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2s. 6d. to 6s. per yard.

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Prices £3 10s., £4 15s., and £5 1s. for 12 yards.

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The most elegant Dress for Dinner or Evening Wear.

Rich new styles more recent, including Pink, Sky,
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Price £3 10s. 6d. for 12 yards, or 2s. 7d. per yard.

The best quality that can be procured at the price.

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Wear. 18s. 6d. 28 in. wide, 1s. 11d. per yard.

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